



Community Council:
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**Bear Valley Community Council (BVCC)
Meeting Notes
BVCC Meeting – March 18, 2009**
Compiled by Angie Pinsonneault, Secretary

The council meeting was held in the Arts & Crafts Room at the Bear Valley Elementary School, 15001 Mountain Air Drive. The meeting started at 7:00 pm, with approximately thirty people, including five council board members. Thus, a quorum of members was present. BVCC Chair, Cheri Lipps started the meeting, introduced herself and the other officers, and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Upcoming Ballet Propositions

Mary Rasmussen from Anchorage Tomorrow discussed some of the propositions on the upcoming April ballot. Although Bear Valley residents will not be taxed under a couple of these propositions, the City still needs your vote to pass the bonds. For more information, go to www.anchoragetomorrow.com.

- Proposition 3, 2009 Roads and Drainage Projects Bonds, \$34,225,000: would help fund a variety of road and drainage projects within the Anchorage Roads and Drainage Service Area (ARDSA). This bond package will not cost Bear Valley Residents anything.
- Proposition 4, Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Bonds, \$1,850,000: would help fund a variety of parks and recreation projects in Anchorage. This bond package will not cost Bear Valley Residents anything.
- Proposition 5, Facilities Upgrade Project Bonds, \$1,500,000: would help fund enhancements to both the Lousacc Library (\$1,000,000) and the downtown library branch (\$500,000), including a new entrance at the Lousacc Library. The downtown branch project already has secured \$1,500,000 in private funding. This bond package would cost property owners an additional \$1.90 per \$100,000 per year.
- Proposition 6, Public Safety Bonds, \$1,300,000: would help fund various public safety projects. This bond package would cost property owners an additional \$0.34 per \$100,000 per year.

Captain Chris of Anchorage Fire Department Station 10 provided additional information on the types of projects to be funded by Proposition 6:

- \$700,000 for Fire Department cardiac monitors – current monitors are outdated. Replacement units cost approximately \$25,000 a piece
- \$800,000 to replace the ladder truck in Eagle River – the purchase will be supplemented by insurance proceeds
- Renovations of Stations 3, 5, and 11



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Captain Chris also mentioned that residents can contact the Fire Department for fire mitigation questions. Burn permits are available online, as well as at the various stations. Captain Chris also asked that residents report knocked down street signs to your LRSA so they can be fixed.

Anchorage Trapper Association

Lyle Becker from the Anchorage Trappers Association gave a presentation on trapping in Alaska. He showed a brief video that described how to identify a trapline and how to release your pet if your pet becomes entrapped. Lyle explained that the highest volume of trapping is during the winter months. Area 14C in Chugach State Park, although now closed to wolverine trapping, is open for smaller furred animal trapping. The Area 14C season opens when the snow sticks on the ground, and closes on February 28. You can find more information at www.alaskatrapper.com.

Parks & Recreation Update

Shawna Popovichi, Park District Manager with the Municipality of Anchorage (MOA) Parks & Recreation Department, was unable to make the meeting. She has taken on additional responsibilities with the Fairview Area. In her stead, Cheri gave a brief summary of items on the Parks & Rec radar. She mentioned that the Parks & Rec bond package is one of the smallest, and will provide funding for Section 36 and other neighborhood parks. Cheri also asked that anyone interested in the Bear Valley Parks and Trails Committee please join the committee meetings.

BVCC Updates

Assembly and Legislative Update: Scott Pexton gave a brief presentation on recent Assembly activities:

- The next meeting on March 20 will be a joint meeting with the School Board
- Cheri confirmed that the Bear Tracks name was approved
- There is a proposal pending to amend Title 21 (Case #2008-17):
 - ✓ Wind energy conversion systems
 - ✓ Bury additional utility lines
 - ✓ Heritage Land Bank's annual work plan

Bear Valley (BV) and Rabbit Creek View Heights (RCVH) Limited Road Service Areas (LRSA) Update: Cheri asked David Lipps to give an update on the LRSAs. David mentioned that he could only give an update for the RCVH LRSA.

- There has historically never been quite enough money to fund everything that needs to be done – the current budget is only \$53,000 per year
- The current RCVH LRSA inherited a substantial debt, and that debt just got paid off
- The Board is trying to build up a cash reserve, with the goal being to be able to get some summer upgrade work done



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- The new road contractor seems to be working well, but please avoid excessive chit chat with the crews as the LRSA pays by the hour ☺

Hillside Area Land Owners Association (HALO) Update: Rodney Powell gave a brief presentation on recent HALO activities:

- We may need another Bear Valley representative at HALO. Interested people should contact Rodney
- The last HALO meeting was the Candidate's Forum

BVCC Parks & Trails Committee (PTC) Update: Rodney Powell gave a brief presentation on recent PTC activities and other items of interest:

- The Section 36 Citizen's Advisory Committee did a tour of Section 36 – there seems to be a general consensus to keep the area as natural as possible – i.e. no lighted trails, etc.

Open Forum

Cheri gave a variety of other community updates:

- Neighborhood Watch Program: as there has been a rash of problems in the last two months, we are trying to set up some formal Neighborhood Watch groups in Bear Valley. There will be a presentation at next month's meeting, and there is also an option for residents to host a presentation in their neighborhood. If you are interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch Program in your neighborhood, please contact Cheri.
- Adopt a Park Program: Bear Valley and Rabbit Creek Community Councils have adopted Stork Park. Part of this adoption is an agreement to pick up trash once a month. Volunteers should track their time and turn it in to Cheri who is the program coordinator, as the time spent picking up trash counts as matching funds towards grants. Additionally:
 - ✓ There are tentative plans to use the plexiglass wind screens for signs. We are looking for old pictures of the park to put on the signs. The Radio Control Club has also agreed to pay for one sign so they can display information on their club
 - ✓ Due to vandalism, we are going to start locking the gate at the park. The park must be open during the hours of 7:00am to 10:00pm. We would like to set up a monthly rotation schedule for volunteers to help lock and unlock the gate. Interested people please contact Cheri.
- Saturday, June 13 is our Community Clean-Up Day. Please join us in picking up trash around the community and then a potluck afterwards. More information on the time and place will be forthcoming
- The Fire Department will be providing wood chipping service. Brush pickup will probably be June 14 or the week after



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- Mail Carriers Association: the Mail Carriers Association would like to use Stork Park for their annual spring picnic, in exchange for putting in a horseshoe pit. This would have to go through the public process, but they would like to know what the general community opinion is before they proceed further with the idea
- Bear Valley Parks & Trails Committee: believe the next meeting is April 1. Any historical information on Section 36 that can be provided is greatly appreciated
- Mailboxes: the King's Way units are full. The Jamie Avenue units are almost full (5 left). Email Cheri if you are interested in getting a slot. We are planning to put up kiosks by the mailboxes for community notices. Sean Holland has already donated one for the King's Way units, and we are looking for volunteers to help build a kiosk for the Jamie Avenue units.

Treasurer Report: Jackie Morrissey gave the Treasurer's report:

- \$55 has been collected in dues
- \$55 has been collected in donations
- The Council gave a \$50 donation to HALO for the Candidate's Forum
- The Council reimbursed Tammy Powell \$20
- The current balance is \$1,162

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

The next Bear Valley Community Council meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 8, 2009, at 7:00 pm in the Arts & Crafts Room at the Bear Valley Elementary School.** Please forward any meeting topic ideas to Cheri.

Meeting minutes, notes, agendas and other BVCC topics of interest can be obtained by going to the BVCC web page at www.communitycouncils.org and selecting Bear Valley.