

TO: Federation of Community Councils

THRU: David Baldwin, President

FROM: Erin Dovichin, Secretary-Treasurer

SUBJECT: Chugiak Community Council Approved Minutes for February 17, 2011 Meeting

CALL TO ORDER COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Due to a lack of quorum, the President called to order a committee of the whole.

Roll Call

Present:

David Baldwin, President
Gale Armstrong, Vice President
Erin Dovichin, Secretary-Treasurer
Randy McCain
Benjamin Sherburne

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was provisional approval of the minutes from January; however final approval was tabled due to lack of quorum.

REVIEW OF BYLAWS

Linda Kovac proposed review of the Bylaws. Bylaws can currently only be repealed or amended at January, May and September meetings and so it was decided we would review the bylaws and make proposed changes in order to provide the required one month notice and voting in May.

Discussion ensued regarding proposed changes. Benjamin Sherburne agreed to record the changes and provide the proposed new version of the bylaws with changes tracked at the next regular meeting.

Proposed change to quorum (Article VI, section F):

- Discussion of issues with achieving quorum lately. Proposed change is “The necessary QUORUM to hold a meeting shall be at least five (5) elected board members. There was discussion as to whether or not to add “alternate board members” but it was noted that according to bylaws alternates are considered board members for sake of QUORUM.

- Discussion of how we need to track unexcused absences and uphold the “two unexcused” rule in order to consistently achieve quorum. We have been tracking excused attendance, but we need to uphold the rule.

Proposed change to notice of meetings (Article VI, section D).

- Discussion of how use of the website has changed how we post notice. It is likely no longer necessary to post notice at venues such as the library or the post office. We should simply require 7 days notice to be given. We should however continue to endeavor to get the word out to as many residents as possible. Dovichin should ensure that meeting notice is posted in a timely fashion online—the website is currently showing the November meeting. Dovichin should go back through all the sign-in sheets for previous meetings and ensure people are added to the email list. People can also sign up themselves to receive notice of events and meetings via email at the FCC website. Proposed change is “NOTICE of all meetings and their agendas must be given at least seven (7) days in advance.”

Proposed change to Council records maintenance (Article IV, section J, parts 1-4 and Article VIII, section C, part 1)

- Discussion regarding how the UA library is not interested in holding our paper records. Paper records are also likely not necessary any more as everything can be held in digital form. The Chugiak Historical Society would be interested in all the paper records from the past – before digital was the standard. Kovac will transfer all the paper records in her possession to the Historical Society. She will transfer all the digital records to Dovichin. It was recommended that a hard drive be purchased to store all the digital records permanently and this hard drive could be transferred easily from secretary to secretary. Decision to approve purchase of a hard drive tabled until a meeting with a quorum. Proposed change to *Article IV, section J, parts 1-4* is deletion of part 1 and change of 2,3,4 to 1,2,3 respectively: 1. A minimum of the last two (2) years’ worth of electronic records shall be maintained on the Council website; 2. All available historical paper records shall be maintained at the Chugiak Historical Society; 3. A separate copy of all electronic records shall be personally maintained by the Secretary. Proposed change to *Article VIII, section C, part 1* is “Keep and report the minutes of the meetings and distribute copies to locally-elected assemblymembers, state legislators, and the Federation of Community Councils;”

Proposed change to Alternate Board members (Article IX, section E)

- Proposed change is addition of a part 5 “Alternate board members serve at large.”

Proposed change to amendments (Article XIII)

- Discussion regarding how there does not seem to be a compelling reason to limit bylaw amendment or repeal to only the January, May or September meetings. Proposed change is “These bylaws may be repealed, amended, or new bylaws adopted at any regular meeting. Any changes in the bylaws require one (1) month’s notice to Council members.”

OLD BUSINESS

Old Glenn Pathway. Linda Kovac described how at the November meeting many people attended the meeting to share their concern about the change to the pathway along the Old Glenn Highway between North Birchwood and South Peters Creek. Portions of the originally separated path have been changed into a wide road shoulder with only a painted line delineating the trail. Residents are very upset about this, are concerned about safety, and want it changed. Jim Amundsen, the project manager for the state, attended the November meeting as well and said we could change it but would have to go through AMATS. Debbie Ossiander said AMATS needed a cost estimate. Dave Baldwin and Linda Kovac tried to get a cost estimate from Jim Amundsen but he said that he could not provide a cost estimate until there was a maintenance agreement between the state and the municipality. Kovac read an email exchange between Kovac and Amundsen. Kovac also relayed that this was not the understanding she had from the November meeting. Other Board members and residents also agreed with Kovac that that was not the understanding they had from the November meeting either. One person pointed out that it was not a question of if an accident would happen but when. Discussion centered on how what had once been a safe pathway was now in essence snow storage, and the Old Glenn project had taken away the only place we had that was a separate, safe pathway. David Baldwin and Gail Armstrong pointed out that the council had asked for a safe pathway along the Old Glenn for 20 years and it was ironic that now that most of a pathway had been completed they would take this section away. It was decided that the Council would wait to see how Jim Amundsen responds to Kovac's email and then take further action. Dovichin recommended that if the answer was not satisfactory the Council should hold an emergency meeting on the matter.

REPORTS

CBERRRSA Road Board L. Kovac (688-5356). Kovac reported:

- Eagle River-Chugiak consistently has difficulty competing with Anchorage for AMATS funding. Kovac recommended that AMATS funding be prorated by population. Under that formula, we would deserve roughly 10-15%. If Eagle River-Chugiak were its own city it would be the second largest city in Alaska.
- Proposed combination of long-range transportation plans within the municipality of Anchorage puts us at risk of losing our uniqueness here. If the municipality starts combining long-range transportation plans, what's next?
- CBERRRSA meetings are the last Monday of the month at Eagle River Town Center. Everyone is welcome to attend and make their voice heard.

Eagle River-Chugiak Parks & Recreation Board G. Armstrong (696-3543), R. Burger/Alternate (688-3835). Armstrong reported:

- Completed plans for the MAC center expansion have been sent to bid. \$8.5 million is available for the project, which is a 36,000 sq ft addition. The Board is hopeful that recreational opportunities the new addition will provide will tip the MAC over into paying for itself.

- Engineering is also underway for proposed upgrades to various systems. All of the cost of this is provided by taxes collected locally here over the years. No bonds have been requested
- Randy McCain raised a concern about the Park Department's new policy of charging community councils for use of the Eagle River Town Center if used more than once a month. McCain thinks this is wrong and that this policy and the targeting of the Consortium on this issue is insulting to all the people who volunteer so much of their time on these councils and the consortium to make our community a better place. He pointed out that councils are a fundamental part of our government, and he does not believe the Parks department has the authority to make this decision. There was some confusion about whether or not the decision was final, but there was agreement on the Board that Armstrong should bring the issue up again at the next meeting and carry this concern to them. McCain will attend that meeting as well.
- Kovac asked Armstrong if there had been any discussion about CBERRRSA's motion to use the backside of Loretta French Park for a road material disposal area. Armstrong did not think that was a problem.
- Kovac raised a question about a ski ramp/bridge proposal and had Parks looked at it. Kovac is concerned it will be very expensive and there are other higher priorities.

Federation of Community Councils (FCC) D. Baldwin (688-0123) R. McCain/Alternate (229-6009). No report.

Treasurer's Report: E. Dovichin (688-2551) Dovichin reported we have \$3274.86

Kovac pointed out that CBA has been very generous with allowing us to use the facility free of charge for decades. We should find a way to thank them and recognize their generosity.

Old Glenn Project Citizen Committee (ADOT&PF Project No. 52515) L. Kovac. Kovac reported that issues had been covered in old business.

Title 21 Rewrite Committee (Land Use & Zoning Code Rewrite) R. McCain (229-6009). No report.

Consortium of Chugiak-Eagle River Community Councils R. McCain (229-6009), M. Mears/Alternate (622-4077) McCain reported:

The final draft has been submitted to the Assembly's attorney to put it into municipal code format. When it is done, our assembly members will present it for us. Then it will go through review. At this point, the Consortium will no longer be taking public comment—that will now go to the City.

City consultants originally recommended that what worked for Anchorage residents would not work for Chugiak-Eagle River. They wanted to do something different but did not have the staff or resources. That is how the Consortium was born. Members went to the state and secured grants for the process. There are no taxes or sources of income for the Consortium and Community Council like there is for CBERRRSA. Kovac praised McCain and the Consortium,

pointing out that it was amazing how the Consortium managed to generate a great document for under \$300,000 and this could not have been done so inexpensively by the City. McCain stressed that this is one of the reasons he is so angry about the Parks Department decision to charge the Consortium and other councils for meeting space. Baldwin offered that if the Consortium needed space CBA would be available.

On-Site Wastewater System Technical Review Board L. Kovac (688-5356) No report

OPEN FORUM:

Armstrong asked if we will hold a candidate forum for municipal elections. Baldwin said we usually do that in March and he will put it on the agenda and work on it.

ADJOURNMENT

Sherburne motioned to adjourn and McCain seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Thursday, March 17, 2011, 7:00 pm at the Chugiak Benefit Association.