

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RABBIT CREEK COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL,  
14 January 2016  
Goldenview Middle School**

**DRAFT**

**Chair Adam Lees opened the meeting** at 7:07 PM.

He announced that this was a Board meeting. A general meeting would require a quorum of 21 members (20% of the RCCC membership, under our current Bylaws) be in attendance. Seven members were in attendance, in addition to 8 board members.

Other board members present were: Ron Devon, Janie Dusel, Phil Fortner, Keith Guyer, John Isby, Vivian Mendenhall, and Nancy Pease. Excused: Pat Abney, Joan Diamond, David Sterling, ,.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD**

A representative of the Anchorage Police Department spoke.

Legislative candidate Shirley Coté spoke. She said Holmes's tour of our area was extremely informative.

Assembly candidate John Weddleton spoke.

—>Mark Schimscheimer gave an update from the South Goldenview Rural Road Service Area. The service area hopes for a rebuild of South Goldenview, possibly in 2017; the intersection with Bluebell is especially dangerous. The Muni formerly planned to rebuild Goldenview but is not now planning to. The Muni wants them to raise the grade on Goldenview for 2000 yd, which would cost an exgra \$6M. The service area will present a design in 1-2 months for RCCC support. They estimate a cost of \$1.5-2M; they have \$700K in the bankn now.

**MINUTES**

**Moved** (Pease), **2nd** (Devon) to approve the minutes for December 2015. **Passed** unanimously.

**Moved** (Lees), **2nd** (Mendenhall) to thank Pease for serving as Chair in 2015. **Passed** unanimously.

**REPORTS**

**Treasurer** (Guyer): The total in our accounts is \$548.57.

**FCC** (Holmes): We have sent lists of emails that have bounced (which should be deleted from their list) and those that should be changed to FCC.

Pease commented that it's most important is that FCC inform us of all people who become members of RCCC via the FCC website.

All CCs are supposed to establish a committee to review applications for marijuana growing.

We need to submit receipts for expenses to FCC. They'll give us \$75/year, but RCCC didn't claim the donation last year. Pease volunteered to do it.

The mayor has a fund from which he can give community grants.

**HALO** meeting (Lees): Bill Evans mentioned to HALO that bonds that will be on April ballot.

Any Marijuana taxes won't count toward the tax cap.

Giessel said that she has no position on tax increases.

There is a plan to rebuild the intersection of O'Malley and the New Seward Highway.

### **CANDIDATES' FORUM**

Weddleton: The Candidates' Forum for the April municipal election will be March 2 at O'Malley's on the Green. Several CCs normally donate to cover expenses.

**Moved** (Pease), **2nd** (Devon) that RCCC donate \$25 for the Candidates' Forum. **Passed** unanimously.

### **ONGOING BUSINESS**

**Davison Park** (Holmes): AWWU has been cooperative regarding RCCC's comments on their plan, and has changed some elements in response.

**Birchtree-Elmore traffic calming** (Fortner):

Data collected during summer & fall (including on Goldenview Drive and Rabbit Creek Rd) has shown that roads in our area qualify for calming (as RCCC has been claiming). The proportion of traffic that was speeding was not higher during the school term, as we suspected; the apparent increase in speeding vehicles may be a result of more traffic overall in fall months.

However, we're in bottom of half of Muni's priority list.

Cost of calming measures (Schimscheimer): \$2.5K per speed hump; speed-limit signs much cheaper.

More signs for 25 mph speed limit are needed; and the Muni could install such signs, whereas they won't put speed humps on chip-seal or gravel.

**142nd Street improvements** (Lees, Sande Csaczar-Swanton, Wray Kinard, Schimscheimer)

Lees assigned Devon to be acting chair, while he (Lees) reported on the topic

Public comment isn't required for LRSA projects; the Muni will only work with the LRSA board. Unless there are lots of objections from citizens (CCs included).

A LRSA's mission is maintenance, not improvements or safety. They have no interest in listening to citizens' requests for the latter.

The problems on 142nd include glaciation, and speeding (without any slight line—including attempts to go airborne over a grade summit in the road). Dangerous conditions have existed for 20 years.

These drivers make the road extremely dangerous for pedestrians & other motorists. One family even moved away; others take long detours to avoid it.

The residents got a \$750K grant for improvements. Some has been spent, without input from residents. Lees has asked for accounting of \$\$ spent, but no response. The Muni did install signs for a 3-way stop at Buffalo intersection. This has helped in that area. Initially they just installed one stop sign on 142nd— no good, because cars can't stop in winter (it's icy and a 15% grade), so they skid through the intersection.

North Goldenview is “a drag strip,” too.

Residents could convert the LRSA to Rural Road District by popular vote, as South Goldenview did. Such a body can seek and accept grants and do major projects. LRSAs are supposed to hold 1 general meeting a year; if they aren't doing that, should write Muni officials (possible suggestions are Maury Robinson, PW&E Department, Mike Abbott, Kent Kohlhase, and Jerry Hansen).

**Moved** (Lees), **2nd** (Pease) that RCCC send a resolution to the mayor, LRSA chair Robinson, others: To improve drainage and sight lines on 142nd, including Deadman's Hill; and that stakeholders (local residents) be given consistent input. **Passed** unanimously.

**BirdTLC:** They have applied for a permit (Planning & Zoning Commission case # 2016-0009).

Lees suggests we support the flight cages (only, at this time).

Concerns: The corner of the fence would extend into the right of way of the Old Seward Highway; therefore, the vegetated buffer that BirdTLC has planned would be obliterated when the OSH is upgraded.

Could they move the cages 15 feet farther to west?

Another concern: bears traverse the area regularly— an electric fence needed to keep them out of the cages.

The property is zoned PLI-SL. (It was rezoned 2003, early in BirdTLC's ownership.)

There are 9 limitations, including a buffer.

**Moved** (Pease), **2nd** Lees that RCCC write letter to P&Z that cages and bird food will attract bears, therefore an electric fence should be specified; and that the footprint of the cages be moved, so that a permanent vegetated buffer can be wholly on BirdTLC property. We should remind them of the zoning limitations. **Passed** unanimously.

**Pedestrian easements** (Pease): She has been working with Lori Schanche, the Muni's official for nonmotorized transportation, to get pedestrian access easements marked. The easements have been platted between street cul-de-sacs, from streets to trails, and in dedicated greenbelts scattered in the Paradise Valley area. However, many of the easements are unmarked, and the public and adjacent residents don't know where they are. Schanche says we should just find the corner of the easement and start using it; but it isn't that simple. These pedestrian easements are different from utility easements, which aren't public rights of way. (This has been Pease's own project, not for RCCC specifically.)

**Conflict of interest and other problems** at the Planning and Zoning Commission hearing and vote on 11 January (Pease and Lees):

They attended this hearing on P&Z case # 2016-0014, which was the Muni's proposal to designate medium and large long-term care and rehabilitative facilities as "permitted" before the fact

The amendment to Title 21 would preclude any public comment on specific development proposals.

There are major concerns about roads and other infrastructure in our area.

A person who's developing one of those projects is on P&Z. He did not mention an apparent conflict of interest, and only revealed this when he asked before the vote when he could expect to proceed with his development.

**Moved** (VMM), **2nd** (Dusel) that we write a to mayor and his assistant Susanne Fleek, that there was an apparent conflict of interest when P&Z voted on the assisted living issue. **Passed** unanimously.

**Marijuana review committee** (Pease):

It seems unlikely that there'll be production in our area (no suitable land), but Pease is "point person" for RCCC with P&Z, so she will keep an eye on this.

**Park dedications:** Nine parcels are up for dedication by the Assembly. Henson and Davison Parks are in RCCC; Rabbit Creek Park is just to east of us. Should we comment only on those, or on all nine?

**Moved** (Lees), **2nd** (Guyer) that we send a letter to Bill Evans and Jennifer Johnston that all nine parcels proposed for dedication as parks should be dedicated, and that they be rezoned PR. **Passed** unanimously.

**Adjourned** 8:57.

Respectfully submitted by Vivian Mendenhall, acting secretary.