

Birchwood Community Council

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

7-9 PM, Wednesday, September 27, 2006

- ****Beach Lake Ski Chalet on S.Birchwood Loop****

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Approval of Minutes (May, 2006)
- 3) **Guest Speakers** (7:30 PM)
 - a. Sen. Charlie Huggins
- 4) Old Business
 - a. **MOA Title 21 Rewrite:**

AR 2006-232 supports the revised planning schedule for the Title 21 Rewrite Project, Planning Department. The new schedule for Title 21 is as follows:

Mid September to mid-Oct 2006	- Public review of chapters 1, 2, 8, 13
Early September 1 to mid-October	- Complete Title 21 Draft for Economic Impact Analysis
Mid-October to end of January 2007	- Prepare Economic Impact Analysis (EIA)
Early November	- P&Z hearing on Chapters 1, 2, 8, 13
Mid-December 2006	- Assembly hearing on Chapters 1, 2, 8, 13
Early January to mid-February 2007	- Revise Title 21 draft with results of EIA
Mid-February to mid-April, 2007	- Public review of Chapters 3-7, 12, 14
Mid-April to mid-May, 2007	- Public hearings on Chapters 3-7, 12, 14
Mid-June to mid-July 2007	- P&Z deliberations on Chapters 3-7, 12, 14
Early August to end of September 2007	- Assembly deliberations on Chapters 3-7, 12, 14

b. **Powerline Ordinance:**

P&Z held a public hearing on Sept 11, then Sept 12 the Assembly took input. AO 2006-64 establishes design, location, and conditional use standards, and set the maximum heights for **high voltage transmission towers**. Due to a large number of changes to the current ordinance, this was **CONTINUED** to 10-10-06.

c. **Chugiak_Eagle River Comprehensive Plan Update:**

The P&Z Commissioners heard additional testimony regarding Eklutna, Inc's proposed changes regarding their landholdings. Few changes were supported by Planning Staff. The public hearing was closed and P&Z will announce their recommendations Sept.18. The date for the Assembly public hearing has not been set yet.

d. **Chugiak_Eagle River Long Range Transportation Plan Update:**

Two reviews were held out here, the 13th & 14th. A total of 7 people attended both reviews. A public hearing was held Sept 18th before the P&Z Commissioners, and the Assembly date has not been set. The hot button issue appears to be the connectivity issue whereby connections between all subdivisions as well as missing connections between local streets are being listed for development. While this might assist faster emergency response, it also brings up the question of cut-thru traffic in neighborhoods and who is to pay for these connections.

e. At Sen. Dyson's request, State DOT held a meeting the 18th, to present the latest **plans for the following planned projects**. We hope to have more information at the meeting.

1. Eagle River Loop upgrade project including:
 - Latest project plan, ROW issues, time line, funding,
 - Department response to '07 intent language
2. Eagle River road Upgrade including:
 - Project plans, ROW issues, timing, funding
3. Yosemite Road, intersection and upgrades
4. New Glenn intersection/overpass.
 - Plans for Highland Road intersection --weigh station relocation.
 - Artillery Road intersection plans
5. New Glen Lighting Project Eagle River to Kink Flats---status and plans
6. Old Eklutna/Thunderbird falls bridge repair/replacement
7. New Glenn Eagle River Bridge widening---lane increase Muldoon to Parks Highway on New Glenn
8. Spring Drainage Problems on the East side of the New Glenn between Artillery Road and North Eagle

River Exit.

f. **Mt Baldy access.**

No meetings of the group have taken place yet. The NW quarter parcel is not on the table for consideration. They are looking at the 20 acres in Edmunds Lake Park plus cash plus some other HLB parcels for the trade to make it equal for the Eklutna acres desired.

g. **Alaska Railroad/DEC herbicide application permit.**

Status is unknown at the time this newsletter. We hope we will know more by the time we meet.

h. RCA decision regarding **AWWU increasing the dump fees** by 141% for the septage haulers has not been decided yet. We know this increase will be passed on to the customers of the septic pumpers ... us.

5) New Business

a. **Skookum Pit blasting.**

Apparently there isn't anything we can do about the strength or placement of the blasting as they hold a valid Conditional Use. Just keep calling in any damage or disruption you experience to this Council (688-4321)

b. **De-Annexation** and feasibility study.

Go to the State of Alaska website, click on Public Notices, then on Published by Date; Type in August 29, 2006. You can view the RFP Notice, then on the right, click on the actual RFP which is in pdf form and view scope of work (about page 25-29)

c. **Eklutna's Tract 40A, the new Master Plan** for the 404 acres we call the Powder Reserve will be heard by the P&Z Commissioners on Oct. 2nd. While they leave the door open to develop as many as 3300 dwelling units, Dowl Engineers stated they are planning on about 1500 dwelling units under zoning districts similar to R-1 thru R-4. The smallest lots are 3500 sq.ft., with the average being 6000 sq.ft. They also show 7 acres of B-3 commercial business, mixed use, and a reservation for an elementary school site. There will be both public and private trails and road connections to the NW quarter/Almdale area as well as 3 connections to the Frontage Road between the interchange and Terrace Lane. The case number is AO2006-125 and is listed on line where you can make comment. We are meeting too late to make Council comments for inclusion in the P&Z packet but your Chairman has commented and carried forward issues that Birchwood has expressed about this development before.

d. **C-ER Consortium Status Report on our separate chapter in Title 21**

We need to **confirm an alternate** on the Consortium Board to vote if your Chair is not available. The Consortium meets the first Wednesday of the month, the next meeting being Oct 4th, 6:30-9:30 PM, above Garcias. These are open to the public and you can give input during the Open Forum. **We have Consortium By-Laws to approve at our Council meeting.** We are moving ahead, the first to be a telephone survey of the community by a professional survey marketing firm. If you are one of those called, you will be asked a number of questions about our area. Please take the time to express your opinion as these will factor in when we begin formulating the separate chapter of land use regulations. Check out our website by going to www.communitycouncils.org On the left click on any local council, like Birchwood, and when that opens, look to the left near the bottom of the list, and click on Consortium of C-ER Community Councils. Everything we have done or will do is on there.

6) **Board Reports**

CBERRRSA by Gail Dial

Parks & Rec Bd of Supervisors

Federation of Community Councils-We need a new delegate as Nanette can no longer fill this position.

7) **Open Forum**

****Note**** Our agenda is subject to modification to allow input/action on issues that did not make this notice. Any problem or concern you may have about your area, please contact us. Our mailing lists are constantly be modified and anyone wanting to change to email or not receive council correspondence is urged to contact us.

Bobbi Wells – Chair 688-4321

Kevin Finnigan – Vice Chair 688-3758

Nanette Belk – Secretary 694-9629