

April 19, 2004

TO: Federation of Community Councils

THRU: Merten Bangemann-Johnson
President

FROM: Linda R. Kovac
Acting Secretary

SUBJECT: **Chugiak Community Council - Approved Minutes for April 15, 2004 Meeting**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the March 18, 2004 meeting with minor corrections. Motion was approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Road Board – Ted Kinney (688-2477), Chris Hudson/Alternate (696-1037) – Ted reported that the Lower Fire Lake culvert dam was unsafe, West Lake Ridge Road was closed, and that repairs were underway by the MOA. The rest of Ted's report was postponed due to time constraints.

Parks and Recreation Board – Ray Burger (688-3835) – Ray's report was postponed due to time constraints. The Secretary was requested to prepare and send a letter to the Parks and Recreation Board to endorse Ray Burger to another term on the Board. Ray's term expires in June.

Federation of Community Councils – Merten Johnson (688-6575), Dave Baldwin/Alternate (688-6158) – Merten's report was postponed due to time constraints.

Treasury – Linda Kovac (688-5356) – \$1,518.36 in the savings account. No expenses were reported.

PRESENTATIONS

Eklutna Development Presentation

Jim Sawhill, P.E./Lounsbury & Associates, Inc. (272-5451), representative for Eklutna, Inc. is conducting master planning for Eklutna. Mr. Sawhill gave a conceptional overview of Eklutna's future plans for residential developments in two large areas of Chugiak.

One area of future development is north of Reese and Rankine Roads and Mirror Lake Middle School. This area consists of approximately 1,000 acres. Eklutna could construct 500 - 600 homes at full build-out. Single-family residences would be zoned R6, 1-1/4 acre lots, with city water and on-site septic systems. All streets would be strip-paved. Eklutna intends to do the construction over the course of many years starting with 100 lots. The first phase would start as early as this summer and may consist of 30 lots near the southern edge of the area.

In addition to constructing local residential streets, Eklutna would need to construct some collectors to handle through traffic as identified in the Chugiak-Eagle River Long-Range Transportation Plan. Mr. Sawhill stated that Eklutna would pay for the construction of the collectors and suggested that the collectors could be northern extensions of Oberg Road and Lake Hill Drive. Members recommended steering traffic away from Lake Hill Drive as there is already too much traffic traveling that road. As an alternative, members recommended that the Old Glenn Hwy, an arterial, could be extended north of Mirror Lake Middle School to direct traffic to and from the North Peters Creek Interchange.

Eklutna is also looking at options to direct some of the anticipated increased traffic load northward to the existing Mirror Lake Interchange, which is located about a mile from the North Peters Creek Interchange. However, such a collector would run through the Edmonds Lake Regional Park. Eklutna is looking at options how such a road could be built through the park. One option is for Eklutna to acquire the park lands through a trade with the Municipality by giving up Eklutna-owned lands next to the Chugach State Park on the east side of the New Glenn Hwy.

This residential development would also require the construction of multi-use paved and unpaved trails as identified in the Areawide Trails Plan. However, the alignments suggested in the trails plan do not follow existing terrain and must be redesigned. Mr. Sawhill stated that pedestrian/bike trails would be placed adjacent to the collectors and that there are many other possibilities for trails in the area. Members suggested that trail plans anticipate the various uses the trails would support as well as the public desire to utilize trails to cross the New Glenn Hwy.

Another area of possible future residential development by Eklutna, Inc. is the "Eklutna 770", consisting of 770 acres located north of Eagle River between the Old and New Glenn Hwys. Development might consist of single- or multi-family residences, zoned R1 or R3, with city water and city sewer. Such a development would be considered high density. This area might not be developed for quite some time.

Mr. Sawhill stated that Eklutna, Inc. would make periodic visits to the Council meetings to keep the community informed of progress.

MOA Traffic Presentation

A presentation from Lance Wilber, MOA Traffic Director, was cancelled.

NEW BUSINESS

Context Sensitive (Road) Design

Frank McQueary/Anchorage Road Coalition (243-2999) gave a detailed presentation on the organization and goals of the Anchorage Road Coalition. The coalition includes seven community councils within the MOA. Goals include 1) advocating safe, neighborhood friendly, cost effective street construction, 2) educating users to understand the impacts of street design, 3) lobbying the MOA and SOA to adopt a rigorous process prior to street design to consider potential impacts to all stakeholders. The coalition believes that current MOA and SOA road design procedures do not utilize public input and ultimately produce over-designed roads. In addition, the coalition questions whether the resulting roads truly improve traffic flow and safety but rather end up costing more than benefits are worth and lowering property values. The coalition supports the idea of "context sensitive design" practices that would involve public input from the onset and would consider a great many diverse factors prior to a road being designed or upgraded. Mr. McQueary requested the Council resolve to support context sensitive design practices within the MOA and SOA. The President agreed that the Council would consider the request at a future meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Old Glenn Highway Rehabilitation Project (ADOT&PF State Project No. 52515)

Dave Yanoshek, P.E./CRW Engineering Group, LLC. (Phone 562-3252, Fax 561-2273, Email dyanoshek@crweng.com), Ken Chapman/ADOT (269-0586), and Carl Nelson/ADOT (269-0595), gave a status on the Old Glenn Hwy Rehabilitation Project and answered questions. The Old Glenn Hwy is an arterial that links Eagle River and Peters Creek. This project would clear right-of-way (ROW), repave the road, and add a paved trail for the length of road running from Fire Lake northward to Ski Road. The future road would remain two lanes with the current road alignment and curves. The design includes an additional turning lane at the three main intersections (South Birchwood Loop, North Birchwood Loop, Ski Road.) Lanes would be 12 ft wide with 4 ft shoulders and ditches with a separated 10 ft paved pedestrian/bike trail. All current driveways would be retained. Lighting would be minimal but there would be lighting at the three main intersections. The speed limit would remain at 45 mph. The project would also rebuild the bridge across Peters Creek on the Old Glenn Hwy.

The trail in the Fire Lake area would be located on the east side, transfer to the west via a tunnel a bit north of Fire Lake, and transfer to the east again where North Birchwood Loop intersects the Old Glenn Hwy. The trail would be separated from the road with a ditch where feasible; but, where space is tight, the trail would be adjacent to the road with curb and gutter. Additional guardrails would be installed. The existing paved path by Peters Creek Park would be rebuilt.

The project is in design development and the local review is done. The project is now determining: how much right-of-way (ROW) is required; which utilities need to be moved; how to align driveways; and how much of the AWWU work in the same area can be coordinated. The amount of ROW required for this upgrade, which ranges from 60 to 300 ft in width, is less than would be required for a new road. ROW work would include clearing away all encroachments (structures, grading improvements, utilities) and vegetation. Where possible, the impact of vegetation removal would be reduced. Some grading would be required and retaining walls would be added where needed. For ROW questions or conflicts, contact Al Burton/DOT (269-0689).

Once the preliminary design is finalized, a detailed design phase will follow. Design standards are from AASHTO Policy on Geometric Design. Construction is anticipated to begin no sooner than Summer 2006.

John Rodda, Manager - Eagle River/Chugiak Parks, Recreation and Community Development, asked who would be ultimately responsible for maintenance. Mr. Nelson stated that ADOT would maintain the roadway and retaining walls year-round as well as the path in the summer. Mr. Rodda also requested that a path be installed on the Old Glenn Hwy near the MacDonald Recreation Center in the immediate future as children have to walk on the edge of the highway.

There were conflicting opinions voiced by members. In general, they included:

- Chugiak has been pushing for this upgrade for years to increase safety and are pleased the work is being addressed.
- The ROW work would reduce the aesthetics of the road and want to stop the project.
- Traffic speed would increase.
- Traffic speed would remain the same.
- Traffic volume would not increase so why upgrade?
- Traffic volume would increase significantly when Eklutna develops the "Eklutna 770".
- Could commercial truck traffic be reduced? – Answer is no, commercial trucks have the right to access the same roads as everyone else.
- Why were so many costly encroachments allowed to be built on the state's ROW over the years? Did the Municipality just let it happen?

Chugiak Community Council Board Elections

An election to replace Art Isham (former Secretary) on the Board was postponed until the next meeting. Board Member Linda Kovac volunteered to be Acting Secretary for the meeting.

Chugiak Website: www.chugiakcouncil.org

The Chugiak Community Council's website is under development. The President showed a welcome page that he designed for the site. Email accounts would also be set up for all of the Board Members. Members liked the preview.

The Secretary was requested to prepare and send a thankyou letter to MTA for their monetary support of the website.

Bobbi Wells, Birchwood Community Council President, suggested that the website include Birchwood as our two communities share so many things in common.

A motion was made and seconded to expand the scope of the website to include Birchwood. Motion was approved unanimously.

OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Alaska State Budget

A representative from the Governor's office contacted the Council to urge members to contact their state legislators in support of a state sending limit as well as the Percent Of Market Value approach (POMV) currently under discussion. Chugiak's representatives are:

Sen. Scott Ogan (R), (800) 862-3878, Senator_Scott_Ogan@legis.state.ak.us

Rep. Bill Stoltze (R), (866) 465-4958, Representative_Bill_Stoltze@legis.state.ak.us

Planning & Zoning Case No. S11257-1

Planning & Zoning Case No. S11257-1 is a short plat that proposes to subdivide one tract of land into seven lots where Voyles Boulevard and Homestead Road would intersect thus impacting future Homestead collector development. The case goes before the Platting Officer, Mr. Jerry Weaver, on May 17.

A motion was made and seconded to reject the plat as proposed. Motion was approved unanimously. The Secretary was requested to prepare and send a letter to the MOA Planning Department recommending the plat not be approved as the Homestead collector is identified in the Chugiak-Eagle River Long-Range Transportation Plan as well as in the TIP for 2007.

Plat Review Committee

Ted Kinney proposed that a plat review committee be set up for the Council to act on behalf of the Council on planning and zoning issues if the Council cannot address the issues during normal monthly meetings. This idea was approved and the committee will tentatively consist of Ted Kinney, Linda Kovac, and Gale Armstrong.

Chugiak Fire Service Area Board of Supervisors Opening

Long time resident, Clovis Roberts, is stepping down from the three-member CFSA Board of Supervisors. Normally, the public would have the chance to vote someone into the position via the city election but this routine did not occur this year. Consequently, since there is an opening, Mayor Begich must appoint someone to the position and is looking for input from the public. Former Assembly Member Dan Kendall has volunteered for the position.

A motion was made and seconded to endorse Dan Kendall to the open seat on the CFSA Board. Motion was approved unanimously. The Secretary was requested to prepare and send an endorsement letter to Mayor Begich requesting that the Mayor appoint Dan to the position.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

NEXT MONTH

- Review of by-laws
- Perhaps another visit from Eklutna, Inc. to present proposed road alignments in future residential development north of Mirror Lake Middle School.
- Perhaps a visit from Al Burton/ADOT to answer questions regarding the highway ROW for the Old Glenn Highway Rehabilitation Project.
- Perhaps a visit from Roberta Piper/AWWU for an update on water and sewer improvements south of the South Birchwood Loop/Old Glenn Hwy intersection.
- Perhaps addressing a request from the Anchorage Road Coalition to pass a resolution to modify current MOA/SOA road planning procedures.

BOARD INFORMATION

<u>Term</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Name and Phone</u>	<u>Phone No</u>	<u>Email Accounts</u>
12/05	At Large	Merten Bangemann-Johnson (President)	688-6575	mertenbj@chugiakcouncil.org
12/04	At Large - East Mirror Lake	Linda Kovac (VP & Treasurer)	688-5356	teco@gci.net lkovac@chugiakcouncil.org
12/05	At Large - Chugiak	Gale Armstrong	696-3543	armstron@mtaonline.net
12/04	At Large	David Baldwin	688-6158	akbmwclub@alaska.net
12/05	West Mirror Lake	Charlie Cox	688-1261	coxfamily@gci.net
12/04	At Large - West Peters Creek	Mick Fischback	688-6895	maflaf@hotmail.com
12/04	Thunderbird Heights	Marty Parsons	688-8020	mpar@alaska.net
12/05	East Peters Creek (Secretary)	VACANT		

Linda Kovac
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Facsimile Transmittal Cover Sheet

To: Dave Yanoshek
Company: CRW
Fax: 561-2273 Phone: 562-3252
From: L. Kovac Date: 4-16-04
Subject: Chugiak Sign-In Sheet 4-15-04
Number of Pages Including Cover Sheet: 2

Comments

Dave,

Thank you for coming to our meeting and fielding
a lot of hard questions. Communication is good.

Could you verify these names and numbers
for the gentlemen that came with you?

Ken Chapman / DOT 269-0586 } I couldn't
Carl Nelson / DOT 269-0595 } see your chart
very well.

The sign-in sheet is short names. Not every
one wants to sign-in at these meetings.

Thanks, Linda Kovac 688-5356