



Officers (*Term Expires EOY*)

Pres. – Morris Pickel Jr. (2024)

V. Pres. – Chuck Homan (2023)

Sec. – Camilla Hussein-Scott (2024)

Treas. – Sharon Gibbons (2023)

Directors (*Term Expires EOY*)

Sean Murphy (2023)

Cliff Cook (2024)

**EAGLE RIVER COMMUNITY
COUNCIL
12001 Business Blvd. #107
EAGLE RIVER, ALASKA 99577**

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 10, 2022

6:30 – 8:30

Call to order – 6:32 pm

Quorum Established

Morris Pickel Present

Chuck Homan Present

Sharon Gibbons Absent

Camilla Hussein-Scott Present

Cliff Cook Present

Sean Murphy Present

Approval of Agenda: Chuck Homan moved to approve Cliff Cook 2nd.

Meeting Minutes: Chuck Homan moved to approve minutes, Sean Murphy 2nd.

Membership Introductions

Reports

- Treasurer Report: \$65
- Parks & Rec: Camilla Hussein-Scott:
 - Resolution 2202-3, motion to vote by Cliff Cook, 2nd Sean Murphy, the resolution was approved unanimously by the entire Council. ERVCC approved the resolution as well.
- Road Board:
 - Presentation by engineering firm the board contracted to do a study about the access of CHS from south Birchwood Loop and Hillcrest. Three scenarios were proposed, and roundabout, realign Hillcrest to take it

to the bus exit as a more cost-effective alternative. No funding for the project.

- Starner Bridge in Peter's Creek, no medical vehicle access to residents due to weight limit. The resolution passed to ask the state for funding. The next meeting is on March 21.
- Advisory Board:
 - Muni Code discussion, ADU recommendations and wants the community to be included in the discussions and give the community more time to acquaint themselves on the matter. There are concerns about density and septic capacity, and the Muni code can be changed for more flexibility on a property over two acres.
- Federation Community Councils:
 - During meetings the last meeting, there was a focus on the discussion of establishing a cannabis business in Eagle River.
 - Council was invited to visit the FCC website: <http://www.communitycouncils.org/servlet/content/home.html>

Guest Speakers

- **Joy Boston**, JBER Information & Community Partnerships:
 - Mask wearing policy changed, effective March 1, following CDC guidelines, except for medical facilities.
 - Arctic Edge exercise, multinational, multi-state, ends March 17.
 - Internal Exercise, March 28 until April 8. Expect noises from the base.
 - Great AK Sportsman's Show, JBER has two booths, recruiters and range officers, historians, discussion encroachment, homesteading
 - Arctic Thunder, July 30/July 31.
 - The cemetery has an event by the honor guard of Unaccompanied service members event the last Wednesday of each month. Contact the cemetery director if you need a pass for this event
 - Contact the office if there are any questions and complaints regarding noise on-base.

Assembly/Legislative Updates

- MOA Assembly update (Chrystal Kennedy, Jamie Allard)
Both Assemblymembers in attendance:
 - Municipal Elections, ready for ballots, need to call the elections office or Room 107 to get a ballot to replace or ask questions and return ballots hours announced; according to Ms. Allard, 1200 votes were not counted in the last election.
 - Information about the election, ballot tracking
 - Reapportionment, thank you for passing the resolution and asking the Assembly long enough to have time to review maps. Map 11v.2 has been adopted and will be before the Assembly the following Tuesday.
 - I requested amendments and am in contact with the mayor's office to review the amendments; Map 11 works well for CER, and at a place presented to work well, it includes JBER.
 - Assembly will have 12 members now, and due to population, borders are redrawn. (Allard)
 - Assembly members have new offices in the building.
 - Advisory Board is important to talk about and review what is essential for the community—changing the code to have an alternative, which isn't available right now.
- Mayor's Office: Alexis Johnson
 - Women's History Month, three events. (Women in Business - Women in Government-Fireside Chat
 - Senior Citizens, Veteran's property tax exemption
 - APD/APDEA Sledding with officers
 - Free tax aid is available, TU-TH, noon 6 pm at the Loussac Library, appointments required.
- Legislative update (Sen. Reinbold, Rep. McCarty, Rep. Merrick) Absent

Community Updates

- Anchorage School Board update (Carl Jacobs)

- Quick Updates on the School District Bonds on the Ballot
- 2-year Bond, spread out to give the public relief.
- Focus on fixing roofs
- Prioritized Security Vestibule initiative to improve security in schools.
- ER Elementary and Gruening look great.
- Superintendent search with community partners, closed application process, 23 candidates to pare down soon to three or two.
- Charter option applications are coming to an end. Submit them as soon as possible.
- ASD has received funds from FEMA, and repairs are still being done to some of the buildings, and ASD is expecting to receive more funding.
- Question regarding the consolidation of school buildings due to fluctuations in school enrollments. It will be discussed at future meetings.
- Community workforce question, the new policy passed 6-0
- Eagle River Community Patrol update (Cliff Cook/John Rathert)
 - February 28.5 hours, 201.4 miles
 - If there is a problem with poor street maintenance, call maintenance. They respond very quickly
 - Since 2018, volunteers have driven 2278.25 hours, 21512.5 miles, and the volunteer hours include community events throughout the municipality but mainly in the CER community.
- Chugiak\Eagle River Library General Update (Nancy Clark)
 - In-person story time every Friday morning in room 107, up to 70 people
 - Self-guided storytime at different stations on Saturdays
 - School District student art display for CER students
 - Planning summer programs, gardening programs, may-June-July with ER Garden Club (Adults and children)
 - FEMA based walkthrough to look for earthquake damage and to paint
 - New furniture with COVID Relief Fund, not cloth, easier to clean
 - Two cell phone booths so that people can have privacy, not soundproof but pretty good
 - Down two positions since last summer,
 - Could still use volunteers to help with shelving
 - Huge uptick in usage in the previous few months
 - New materials
 - Lots of foot traffic
 - Please turn in your ballots in the election books, not the book return slot.

Presentation

This presentation provides information regarding the proposed marijuana establishment, Alice's, located at 12111 Horseshoe Drive, Suite 1, Eagle River, AK 99577. All of the owners either live or work in Eagle River.

On January 11, the Eagle River Community Council President informed Alice's representatives that the community council could not include them in their February meeting due to an already full agenda. They offered Alice a spot to present at the March 10, 2022, community council meeting.

- History - The industry started after the people voted to approve the commercialization of legal, tested, taxed, and regulated marijuana sales in 2014. By 2016 the licensing process began and has grown into the industry it is today. All marijuana businesses are 100% owned by Alaskan residents.
- The Marijuana industry has generated over 7 thousand new jobs, \$30 million to the state in Excise taxes, and annual revenue to the municipality of over \$5 million, which reduces your property taxes.

- Zoning allowed in Anchorage (excluding CER) for marijuana retail shops: B3, 11, 12, and downtown zones.
- Zoning allowed in CER: CE-RC, CE-11; CE-12; CE-13.
- Alice chose 12111 Horseshoe Drive because there is no eligible property in the Eagle River Chugiak area where marijuana establishments can do business.
- The restrictions above eliminate the ability to obtain approval without a variance from the code.
- Alice's is in the B3 zone, not within the permitted CER zoned uses.
- Community members are concerned that if the Assembly grants a variance for this shop, they will grant a variance for more Cannabis establishments in the area.
- February ERCC meeting, the Council voted on a resolution to object to Alice's license, giving Alice no notice to present when the issuance of the permit was discussed.
- Alice's representative asked the Council to withdraw the resolution objecting to Alice's license, but the president of the Council denied the request with objections from community council members.
- Alice's is hosting another community meeting on MARCH 30, 2022, @ 5 pm, Eagle River Lions Club, 18344 Eagle River Road, Eagle River, AK 99577.
- Discussion

Old Business:

1. Resolution regarding Alice's request for a Marijuana retail store License has been forwarded to State AMCO for us to prepare for the process over the next 30 days. Contact with email or letters to marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov
2. A resolution regarding an extension for reapportionment and Senate pairing selection was sent to the Assembly members.

New Business:

1. Representative Merrick's assistant has asked the Council to write a resolution to request funding for the bike path repair project from Genora to Firehouse Lane runs parallel to Eagle River Road.
Action: The resolution was passed unanimously.
2. New board member selection.
Action: Michelle Banfield was appointed by the President and confirmed by the Executive Board to fill the remaining term of Jason Hemphill's seat on the Executive Board. Expiration 2023.

Comments from Eagle River Community Council Membership/Guests

3 Minutes each (time permitting)

1. Introduction by Gretchen Wehmhoff, a candidate who is running for Assembly District 2 seat A.
2. Assembly Member Allard asked the Council's president to add an APD Drug Enforcement Officer to the Agenda to discuss the dangers of controlled substances, but he didn't have a chance to discuss this issue because the executive board decided to end the discussion regarding Alice's presentation.
A member of the audience asked him about the number of officers or patrol cars in the CER community, to which the officer answered 3-4.

Upcoming Events

- **CBERRRSA Board of Supervisors** monthly meeting:
- **Parks and Rec Board of Supervisors** monthly meeting: 2nd Monday each month, 7 pm-9 pm
- **FCC meeting:** TBD

Adjournment: 8:50 pm

Important Dates: Monthly ERCC Meetings (2022-2023)

- **April 14, 2022**
- **May 12, 2022**
- **June 9, 2022**
- **July 14, 2022**

- **August 11, 2022**
- **September 8, 2022**
- **October 13, 2022**
- **November 10, 2022**

- **December 8, 2022**
- **January 12, 2023**

