

**CHUGIAK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, April 21, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Via Zoom

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (Quorum 5+ Elected Board Members) 7:00 PM

2. **INTRODUCTIONS** (Board Members / Presenters / Guests from outside the Chugiak Community Council area)

- Burke Wonnell, Treasurer (Seat 1, Eklutna/Thunderbird) Present Excused Absent
- Leslie Echols (Seat 2, W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake) Present Excused Absent
- Rashae Johnson (Seat 3, W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake) Present Excused Absent
- Will Taygan (Seat 4, E. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake) Present Excused Absent
- Blake Merrifield, Vice President (Seat 5, E. Peters Creek/ Mirror Lake) Present Excused Absent
- Darryl Parks (Seat 6, Fire Lake) Present Excused Absent
- Tom Looney, Secretary (Seat 7, at large) Present Excused Absent
- Jake Horazdovsky, President (Seat 8, at large) Present Excused Absent
- Bruce Aspray (Seat A, alternate, at large) Present Excused Absent
- Harold Parker (Seat B, alternate, at large) Present Excused Absent

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- Moved by [Tom Looney](#) Seconded by [Burke Wonnell](#)
Passed Unanimously

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – February 2022

- Carried to May meeting

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Land Use in regard to Marijuana Retail Establishments in Chugiak and Eagle River
 - Lonn Goldbeck has a consultant doing a study of potential B3 area sites that could qualify as locations for Marijuana Retail Establishments. Study was not done prior to this meeting. The only current area that could be used would be industrial area near Birchwood Airport. Debbie Ossiander from Birchwood Community Council testified that the restrictive zoning was intentional and would require Title 21 code change. Burke Wonnell testified it should be opened up and allowed because it is currently allowed under the law, Tom Looney testified that he feels the proliferation is to many too fast, Will Taygen would like to see a resolution supporting allowing them in our community. Tom Looney stated that he did not want to support a resolution advocating allowing them in our community. Molly advocated allowing them in our community. Lonn advocated a quota or threshold of licensed shops
 - Burke moved, Will Taygen seconded, "The Code should be modified to allow for some reasonable opportunity for a dispensary location in the CER community". Discussion on the topic... A vote was taken with 8 yeas, 4 nays. Motion carried
- **Open Aurora Borealis Ave.** Debbie Ossiander presented that the Birchwood Community Council passed a resolution asking that Aurora Borealis Ave be re-opened.
 - **This will be taken up in May to be voted on.** Allowing for public notice of the resolution.

6. **UPDATES**

- Chugiak Volunteer Fire Dept. – Fire Chief, Tim Benningfield
 - N/A

- Legislative
 - N/A
- Assembly
 - Kevin Cross (new Assembly Member elect):
 - Next week budget
 - MOA collected 5 million too much in property taxes, and want to spend it rather than give it back to tax payers
 - Jamie Allard- N/A
- School Board
 - N/A
- MEA Parks Substation – Update on activities planned for summer
 - Julie Estey
 - Vote in MEA election
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7. **GUEST PRESENTATIONS** (limited to 15 Min)

Kathleen with JBEAR noted that there will be an Airshow this summer...

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

- Chugiak Council Capital improvement projects (CIP)
 - Tabled to May meeting

9. **REPORTS**

- CBERRSA - Blake Merrifield
 - No update
- CER Advisory board – Jake Horazdovsky
 - N/A.
- Federation of Community Councils (FCC), Darryl Parks
 - N/A
- Financial – Burke Wonnell
 - Savings & Checking Balance: Will send update to board no big changes
- Parks and Recreation Board of Supervisors –Will Taygen
 - Update on Lorretta French Park and Equestrian Center
 - Equestrian and Archery Center may be under utilized and Parks and Rec are looking for potential to expand uses. Joyce Hyde was asking if the gate could be unlocked to make access easier, asking “horse community” to respond to how they would like the facility to be used and available.
 - Jake mentioned that in previous years when changes were proposed, many people responded that they were concerned with changed use.
 - Will mentioned one of the primary concerns is supervision and safe use of the area.
 - Eastside Drive, looking for AMATs to prioritize the bike path
 - State and CBERRSA combine ownership, working with AMATs to make it happen.
 - Will provided an update on other proposed bike path upgrades that ultimately will connect and continue all the way to Eklutna
 - Email amatsinfo@anchorageak.gov to show support for completing these paths.
 - Ski Road to Tulwar bike path is also happening soon
 - Next two years will include Oberg to connect through to the Old Glenn.

6.

- CER Chamber of Commerce- Leslie Lance
 - Last Month were able to honor 15 educators at Excellence in Education even held at the Chugiak Senior Center.

- Upcoming on June 3rd, CER Chamber Settlers bay Golf tournament
 - Question came up (Molly) regarding who is running the 4th of July parade in Chugiak and is there a way to connect it to the Bear Paw Parade.
 - Answer is that the 4th of July parade is a little more adhoc, and the fellow who used to organize it has passed away.
 - Discussion about how to connect the two events, possibly reach out to Trig at Chugiak Café who may have more information.
- Bear Paw festival July 13th thru 17th, 37th Annual
- Contact CER.org for questions about any of these events.
- Secretary – Tom Looney
 - N/A
- General Council Business – Jake Horazdovsky
 - Received email from Dowl noting that the variance for steep slope rock mining was granted for the Eklutna rock quarry.
 - Jack asked that they come to May 19th meeting to present any information they may have that helps residents understand how some of their concerns regarding water rights and etc. will be addressed.

10. OPEN FORUM

- N/A

11. NEXT MEETING DATE:

- The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, May 19th, 2022, 7:00 PM
 - Burke Wonnell asked for feedback about holding the next meetings in person. General consent was that returning back to in person meetings would be good.
 - Discussion on whether a new location should be considered. Resolved that keeping it at the traditional location would be best, with perhaps moving it in the fall.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

- Adjournment moved Will Taygen, seconded by Burke Wonnell, 8:57 PM passed unanimously.