

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (Quorum 5+ Elected Board Members) 7:04 PM

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

- Jake Horazdovsky, President (at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Blake Merrifield, Vice President (E. Peters Creek/ Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Paul Schneider (at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Burke Wonnell, Treasurer (Eklutna/Thunderbird)..... Present Excused Absent
- Darryl Parks (Fire Lake) Present Excused Absent
- Will Tagen (E. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Matt Hickey (W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake opened to At Large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Rashae Johnson (W. Peters Creek/Mirror Lake)..... Present Excused Absent
- Tom Looney (alternate, at large)..... Present Excused Absent
- Harold Parker (alternate, at large)..... Present Excused Absent

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- There was not a quorum, so no business was conducted

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – February Minutes Motion Made and Pass

- Minutes Approved as Amended

5. **UPDATES**

- Chugiak Volunteer Fire Dept. – Scott Fisher Fire Chief
 - Volunteer Hours April – 5,083
 - 20,470 total for the year.
 - Current Volunteers - 102
 - April Responses 73
- Legislative
 - Kelly Meyrick – Senator for Chugiak and Eagle River
 - No Update
 - Rep Dan Saddlers - Gave an update after the trail access segment.
 - Called in from the plane traveling from Juneau
 - Education Funding
 - Looking for ways to fix the school funding for Home Schooling based on court ruling.
 - Funding secured for trail connection from Old Glenn to Glenn Hwy on South Birchwood.
 - Capital Priorities Sterner bridge and many more.
 - And much more that was not captured. Reach out to Dan and let him know your opinions!
- Assembly
 - Scott Myers and Mark Littlefield were both in attendance and provided updates from the assembly

- ASD School Board – update via email.
A main item at the moment.....our legal advisors are still digesting Friday's Superior Court decision about correspondence schools. Our (unconfirmed) feeling is that the constitutional issue revolves around money going to pay tuition at private and religious schools and not really about the allocations that go to parents for supplies, lessons, and other items related directly to home schooling. ASD strictly prohibited any of our correspondence programs from covering tuition fees about a year ago, when we became aware of the practice happening some. We think the legal exposure of ASD is low, but we're hoping for a stay of the ruling to let us finish the school year in a strong way for our families. (My assumption is that any monies that were going to private schools has been spent some time ago, and what is left is reimbursements to parents).
We've paused any expenditures for the moment but hope to resume them soon.

Otherwise, we're in a mode to wrap up the school year.

If anyone has questions they are welcome to email me here, or call me at 907-301-7004. If you like, and let me know in advance, I can be available by phone tonight if there are questions.

UNFINISHED BUISNESS

- Trail Access
 - Peter's Creek Trailhead community presented a resolution for the Chugiak Councils consideration regarding a comprehensive Chugach State Park access feasibility/Impact Study. No action was taken due to not having a quorum.
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- Eklutna Dam – Brenda Hewitt
 - Information on Eklutna Inc's counter proposal to the Owners Group was provided .
 - The Native Village of Eklutna came to the utilities last night excited to offer a counter proposal we hoped would be accepted. We wanted to protect the drinking water that Anchorage depends on and instead of building a \$57 million portal that doesn't put water down the whole river, we want to use a siphon pump to take water from the bottom of the lake and put it up over the glacial moraine and have it water the entire river. Albeit what we are compromising on is that it won't offer the flow we want or the what the fish need for a thriving habitat but it's a start and we can begin to build the habitat in the lower part of the river so fish can start coming back.
We put a "reopener" in the agreement that says when the utilities supplant the 40MW of power with another alternative 40MW, we can take down the dam. We offered to help the utilities to get funding to install the pump and shore up the bridges. If in 10 years they find another alternative that meets the resource agency's (and our) goals, we are open to that too. We offer to raise the funds to take down the dam at no cost to the landowners and ratepayers.
We compromise by giving them another 10 years. We compromise by not getting as much water as we wanted but we aren't compromising on eventually, in the next decade, getting our river back for all to enjoy.
I hope you'll ask questions and support this valid middle-ground offer too.

6. UNFINISHED BUISNESS

- Carol Creek Update –

- The development passed through Zoning and will be built as planned, however some of the Councils comments were added to the plan, for example; streets will now be 30'

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

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8. **REPORTS:**

- CBERRSA - Blake Merrifield
 - CIP
- CER Advisory board – Jake Horazdovsky
 - No Report
- Federation of Community Councils (FCC), Darryl Parks
 - No Report
- Financial – Burke Wonnell
 - No Changes
- Parks and Recreation Board of Supervisors –Will
- Via email - 1. Dog Park is going to UDC for approval.
 - 2. Peters Creek parking study will NOT be funded this year.
 - 3. A study to move the Bear Mountain Trail off of Tasha's property and further back onto park land is proposed for funding. ("Peters Creek Trail Assessment and Prescription")

The best way to stall parking lot development is to provide parking. Taking down the "no parking" signs on the uphill of Malcolm Drive would effectively kill the proposal.

- CER Chamber of Commerce- Leslie Lance
 - PAWS Adventures
 - They are looking for bands for Bear Paw.
- Secretary – Position Open
 - No comments
- General Council Business – Jake Horazdovsky
 - None

9. **OPEN FORUM**

- Questions from the group on Eagle Exit – Paul answered questions and provided comment

10. **NEXT MEETING DATE:**

- The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, April 18th, 7:00 PM

11. **ADJOURNMENT:**

- Moved Adjourn by **Darryl Parks** seconded by **Burke Wonnell** 9:30 PM