

Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, June 13, 2024
DS DRAFT

Location: Storck Park Pot Luck and Internet Zoom Meeting

Board Roll Call - Present: Ann Rappoport (Co-Chair), John Riley (Co-Chair), David Sterling (Secretary), Tim Alderson, Judy Michael, Grace Johnston, Nancy Pease, Mike Kenny, Lorena Edenfield

Absent: Amanda Doughty, Matthew Blakeslee

Board Member Co-Chair Ann Rappoport - Opened the meeting formally starting at 7:02 pm.

Requested everyone to sign-in on Zoom or sign-in sheets at Storck Park. Determined 10 board members and over 40 attendees total on zoom and in person. Ann had everyone at Storck state their name. Declared a Quorum and General Meeting. Ann Rappoport described the Sign-In Method. RCCC follows Roberts Rules of Order. The attendance list is attached. Zoom advised of recording the meeting. Described methods to vote on issues for this meeting. People calling in on telephone will need to vote in the chat. Described voting eligibility, attendance of one prior meeting in past 12 months. Described Zoom protocol and instructions. Land Acknowledgement – Meeting on unceded lands of the Dena'ina Athabascan.

- **June Agenda** – Ann Rappoport requested approval of the agenda as written. **Motion: Grace Johnston & 2nd Ky Holland** To approve as written. No objections. Approved.
- **May Meeting Minutes** – **Motion to Approve by Judy Michael & 2nd Tim Alderson** – To approve. No objections.
- **Treasurer Report** – Current report Savings \$317.15 + Checking \$1,731.32 = \$2,048.52 available. Pay Pal name in chat. Outstanding debt encumbered for ongoing records scanning.

Announcements & Legislative Reports:

- **Assembly Members for RCCC Area -**
 - **Randy Sulte** – (907) 343-4121 - Randy.Sulte@anchorageak.gov – Not present. Sent message. South Anchorage Wood Lot will not open. Chief Cross on July 2nd. 3% Sales Tax discussion next month.
 - **Zac Johnson** - (907) 343-4122 - Zac.Johnson@anchorageak.gov – Not present.
 - **Representative Laddie Shaw**–907-465-4945-representative.laddie.shaw@akleg.gov- Not present.
 - **Senator Cathy Giessel** –cell (907) 242-5450 – sen.cathy.giessel@akleg.gov Capital Budget items approved include Girdwood Day Care \$500k, Upper DeArmoun Road Upgrade, Stuckagain Road Upgrade, Canyon Road Parking. Waiting for Governor to sign bill.
 - **Anchorage School District** – Margo Belamy – Cell (907) 903-9820 – email = belamy@asdk-12.org – Not present.
 - **Candidates-** Ky Holland and Lee Ellis discussed their candidacy for State House District 5.

New Business and Old Business Requiring Action & Reports

- **Alaskans for Judicial Council** – Susanne DiPietro – Alaska Constitution Article 4 is Judicial Branch. 2-Step process to select judges. Step 1 is a non-partisan evaluation and nomination process by the Alaska Judicial Council (merit selection to ensure high quality judges). Step 2 is selection by the governor from qualified nominees. The RETENTION of judges occurs through public elections, including at upcoming November election (accountability by the people). The non-partisan AK Judicial Council members are volunteers: three selected by the governor, three by the Alaska Bar Association and Alaska's Supreme Court Chief Justice is chair. Council sends out survey to lawyers who nominate individuals. Candidates go thru background check. Council and police and other legal folks evaluate the performance of candidates. Information is detailed in election pamphlet and online.
- **Proposed Free Standing Emergency Department in South Anchorage** – Hank Grinold, VP Operations at Alaska Regional – Looking to expand Emergency Services in Anchorage. Feeling a shortage of ER services. South Anchorage is far away from ER Services. Lobbied for location last year that was denied by the State. Patients do not have a choice on the hospital they go to. Objections - Included Native and JBER in their evaluation, where not all folks can be accepted. Did

not get buy-in from the community. There will not be an operating room. Does not want trauma going to the proposed facility. Biggest negative is the facility would not be connected to a hospital.

- Questions & Comments: Dianne Holmes is opposed to the ER in South Anchorage since people would need to be transported to hospital. Vivian Mendenhall voiced concern about critical service and logistical issues. Beth Farnstrom – Works at hospital and is in favor of the new unit because of the time savings for patients. Tim Alderson concerned about primary care for indigent folks. Judy Michael: What % are drug related calls? about 1 in 3 calls. Linda Janidlo: Are you working thru on Certificate of Need Process? Yes. Will go thru a Public Comment process.
- **Update on Meeting with Mayor-elect Susanne LaFrance** – Ann Rappoport, Nancy Pease and Tim Alderson – Talked about issues in RCCC Area. Looking for talented staff. Suzanne feels that RCCC are her original constituents. Intends to be a consensus builder.
- **Update on Assembly Action on AO 2024-45 to Amend Title 21** – Ann Rappoport – Assembly introduced 87 then 87(S) to combine housing zones last Fall. Concern about amendments and substitutions. Was ignoring existing policies. Vote on 45 to amend Title 21 was 6 to 6 so it failed. In 2 weeks 87(S) and 44 will be up for Assembly vote. Concerned about the process. John Weddleton advises anytime the Assembly wants to change Title 21, they do not have to go thru P&Z. Assembly can do this, but should they do this? When this went to P&Z, Planning Dept. commented their department is being removed from process. Assembly could be the ones approving zoning. Seems like they are trying to get ordinances approved at June 25th meeting, before the next administration is in power. Mail out notice to all affected homeowners would cost \$60k.
 - **Motion: Nancy Pease & 2nd Dianne Holmes** – Shall RCCC send additional comments on zoning ordinances to MOA Assembly opposing the process being followed on these ordinances. Vote Results: Yes = 24; No = 0; Abstain = 0. Motion passes.
- **Storck Park \$110 Rental for next Meeting** –
 - **Motion: Tim Alderson & 2nd** – Shall RCCC spend \$110 to rent Storck Park next month.
 - Vote Results: Yes = 21; No = 2; Abstain = 0. Motion passes.
- **Annual CIP Survey** – Ann Rappoport explained the survey that was handed out. Submit by tomorrow. Results will be listed.

New Business and Old Business Requiring Action & Reports Not Critical

- **Safer Seward Highway Upgrade from Rifle Range to Bird Flat** – Nancy Pease – Points from meeting. Noise monitors were placed at locations described in August. Next to highway qualifies for noise abatement. Highway at Potter Marsh will all move west, nothing will go east. Railroad will have to move westward. Animal crossing from Marsh to Coastal needs more study. Lighting has not been determined, if required will be downward lights.
- **Rabbit Creek Gateway Sign** – BLM approved. Committee should meet in July.
- **Resilience Committee** – Meets 4th Monday each month. Has lots of communities getting involved. Website has links to studies. AFD south side wood lot not approved. Project Manager hiring has failed, after a year of work, which is keeping \$4 mil out of reach.
- **FCC** – No report.
- **HALO** – No report.
- **Schools on Trail** – Can use volunteers.
- **Social Media** – No report.
- **Next Meeting** – July 11, 2024. Zoom meeting and maybe also at Storck Park Pavilion.
- **Meeting adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.