

TO: Federation of Community Councils

THRU: David Baldwin  
President

FROM: Linda R. Kovac  
Secretary-Treasurer

SUBJECT: Chugiak Community Council – Approved Minutes for October 15, 2009 Meeting

**CALL TO ORDER – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Due to a lack of a quorum, the President called a Committee of the Whole to order at 7:12 pm.

**Roll Call**

Present: David Baldwin, President  
Gale Armstrong, Vice President  
Linda Kovac, Secretary-Treasurer  
Karla Beller  
Tom Devine

Unexcused: Paula Caywood  
Randy McCain  
Jason Walsh

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approving minutes from the 05/21/09 and 09/17/09 meetings was tabled to the next meeting.

*Copies of Chugiak Community Council's meeting minutes and bylaws are available on the FCC's website at [www.communitycouncils.org](http://www.communitycouncils.org) (Click on Chugiak).*

**REPORTS**

**CBERRRSA Road Board** – L. Kovac (688-5356), C. Hudson/Alternate (696-1037). Kovac reported:

- ER Street Maintenance is gearing up for winter.
- ER Street Maintenance has widened the road and applied roto-millings at the Mt. Baldy parking area. The project increased the amount of parking available. Final grading and chip-sealing will occur next year.
- There will be a public work session to discuss long-range goals for the road service area on 10/19/09, 6:30pm, at the Eagle River Town Center.

**Eagle River-Chugiak Parks & Recreation Board** – G. Armstrong (696-3543), R. Burger/Alternate (688-3835). Armstrong reported:

- A young Eagle Scout will build a kiosk at the Mt. Baldy Trailhead to post maps and hiking information.
- A two-year grooming contract has been signed for ski-trails at Beach Lake Park and behind Mirror Lake Middle School.
- The Beach Lake Master Plan Update is gaining momentum. A Citizen Advisory Committee is currently being set up. Contact Land Design North for more information (276-5885, [swdoyle@landdesignnorth.com](mailto:swdoyle@landdesignnorth.com)). Also, there will be a Community Workshop 11/18/09, 7pm, at the Eagle River Town Center.
- The repairs to the subfloor at the McDonald Recreation Center ice rink were completed for much less than the original \$1.5M estimate. The floor is now functioning perfectly.

- Plans to expand the McDonald Recreation Center are indefinitely on hold as the rigid fabric building design that was to be used failed in high winds down in the L48. Conventional building techniques are now required but are too expensive.
- Supervisors are considering adding a second sheet of ice at the McDonald Recreation Center. It would be outdoors, covered, and might connect into the existing refrigeration system. There is already an extra Zamboni that could be used on the second sheet of ice.

Federation of Community Councils (FCC) – R. McCain (229-6009), D. Baldwin/Alternate (688-0123) – No report.

- Community Councils Center is located at 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 100; Phone 277-1977; Email [info@communitycouncils.org](mailto:info@communitycouncils.org); Web [www.communitycouncils.org](http://www.communitycouncils.org).

Chugiak Community Council Treasury – L. Kovac (688-5356) reported there was \$3,154.09 in the savings account including a \$3 donation from members attending the 09/17/09 meeting.

On-Site Wastewater System Technical Review Board – L. Kovac (688-5356) – No report.

Old Glenn Project Citizen Committee (ADOT&PF Project No. 52515)

- Residents noted that after construction, the side roads are more at right angles and drivers must drive slower than before. Also, the side road/Old Glenn Hwy intersections are more elevated which raised safety concerns about the high drop-offs and potential roll-overs, especially at Darby Rd. and at Monastery Dr. Residents talked with construction engineers to see if guard rails could be added at those locations.
- Residents noted that construction seems to be winding down for the year; but, there will be additional work next year on the path and Old Glenn Hwy near Lower Fire Lake.
- For Phase I issues, contact Mike Morris/ADOT Construction Project Engineer (748-2923 cell, 622-4111 office, [mike.morris1@alaska.gov](mailto:mike.morris1@alaska.gov)). For Phase II issues, contact Jim Amundsen/ADOT Design Project Manager (269-0595, [jim.amundsen@alaska.gov](mailto:jim.amundsen@alaska.gov)).
- For more information on the Old Glenn project, go to [www.oldglennhighway.com](http://www.oldglennhighway.com).
- Go to [www.alaskanavigator.com](http://www.alaskanavigator.com) for travel information on Alaskan road construction projects including description, lane restrictions, road closures, etc.

Consortium of Chugiak-Eagle River Community Councils – R. McCain (229-6009), M. Mears/Alternate (622-4077)

- The Consortium is dedicated to overseeing the creation of a separate chapter of land use regulations for C-ER in Anchorage Municipal Code Title 21. For more information, go to the FCC's website at [www.communitycouncils.org](http://www.communitycouncils.org) (Click on Chugiak/Eagle River Consortium).
- Kovac reported that in response to a letter from the Council recommending that the Consortium pursue building a separate chapter in AMC T21 for Chugiak-Eagle River as opposed to other code-writing options, the Council received the following 10/09/09 email from Michael Foster, Eagle River Community Council President:

*Although I agree it would be nice to have our own stand alone chapter, we do not have the funds to produce it. We are working within the financial constraints we have by referencing changes to Title 21 in CER Chapter 10. Unless other funds are available, this is the best we can achieve at this time.*

Title 21 Rewrite Committee (Land Use & Zoning Code Rewrite) – No report.

- Go to [www.muni.org/Departments/Planning/Projects/t21/Pages/Title21Rewrite.aspx](http://www.muni.org/Departments/Planning/Projects/t21/Pages/Title21Rewrite.aspx) to review the Public Hearing Drafts.
- Assembly T21 Rewrite Committee meetings are generally scheduled for Thursdays, Planning Dept. Conference Room at Elmore and Bragaw; 9:15am-11:30am. Go to the Assembly Calendar at [www.muni.org/departments/assembly/pages/default.aspx](http://www.muni.org/departments/assembly/pages/default.aspx) for an up-to-date schedule.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Knik Arm Crossing – see Knik Arm Crossing under New Business

Laurie Fagnani/MSI Communications (569-7090, laurie@msialaska.com) gave an update on the Knik Arm Crossing project and distributed pamphlets and comment forms. Fagnani stated that the Knik Arm Bridge and Tolls Authority (KABATA) is tasked with designing, financing, and building the bridge. The low-profile bridge would stretch from Port MacKenzie to the Port of Anchorage and would hook into the AC Couplet and the H2H connection. The bridge would not affect ship traffic.

The bridge would: serve to relieve congestion on the Glenn Hwy; establish the transportation infrastructure for accelerating growth in the Mat-Su; delay or eliminate the need to add lanes to the Glenn Hwy; provide an alternate north-south emergency route; provide 5,000 construction jobs; and connect the two ports to facilitate construction of the Alaska Natural Gas Pipeline. Although a railroad crossing and path are not in the initial bridge plans, the design would allow for those facilities to be added in the future.

Construction funding would use a public-private partnership to leverage limited public funds (federal appropriations, state and local grants). For every \$5 in private funding, the state would fund \$1. All of the bridge's operation and maintenance costs would be covered by tolls paid by bridge users.

Recent polls show that about 60% of Anchorage residents support the bridge while about 70% of Mat-Su residents support the bridge.

Challenges include: minimizing the impact to Government Hill by using a cut and cover tunnel; minimizing the impact to belugas; obtaining additional environmental clearances; and keeping the current project timeline.

The current project timeline anticipates design and construction from 2009 to 2011 with the bridge operational in 2012. There is, however, an effort to delay the project in the Anchorage Bowl Long-Range Transportation Plan. Fagnani stated that a delay would jeopardize the momentum of the project.

For more information on the project, go to the KABATA website at [www.knikarmbridge.com](http://www.knikarmbridge.com).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Knik Arm Crossing – see Knik Arm Crossing under Presentations

The AMATS Policy Committee is proposing that the Anchorage Bowl Long-Range Transportation Plan be amended to delay the Knik Arm Crossing. The AMATS comment period on this proposal ends 10/23/09. Additionally, Planning & Zoning Case No. 2009-148 is a request from the MOA to delay the Knik Arm Crossing. The case is scheduled to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission on 11/09/09.

Members discussed the possibility that the Anchorage Bowl Long-Range Transportation Plan could be amended to delay the Knik Arm Crossing. The Council is on record for supporting the Knik Arm Crossing. Members recommended that the bridge be evaluated from an Alaskan point of view rather than just from the MOA's interest. There were suggestions that bridge uses could eventually include: the railroad; an expanded coastal trail; a utilidor; and a power plant powered by tidal action. Council members were opposed to delaying the bridge and believed that such a delay would jeopardize the project's momentum and could put the bridge at risk of not being built at all. A motion was made and seconded to recommend that the construction of the Knik Arm Crossing not be delayed (1 Kovac, 2 Armstrong). Motion passed unanimously by the Committee of the Whole.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**OPEN FORUM**

**Planning & Zoning Case No. 2007-117-2**

Devine thanked the Council for all the actions taken regarding Planning & Zoning Case No. 2007-117-2. This case was a request for a Planned Unit Development on Lot 20 in the Tundra Jewel Ranch Subdivision near Needles Loop for 30 new homes on 7 acres. On 07/13/09, the Planning and Zoning Commission unanimously denied the request.

There was discussion about the idea that the proposed PUD was an inappropriate use of the property since the property in question was donated to St. Andrews Parish with the assurance that it would only be used for a children's home or park.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 19, 2009, 7:00 pm at the Chugiak Benefit Association.

**BOARD INFORMATION**

<b>Term Expires</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Seat</b>
01/11	Dave Baldwin, President	688-0123	dbaldwin@chugiakcouncil.org	At Large	7
01/10	Gale Armstrong, Vice President	696-3543	armstron@mtaonline.net	Chugiak/ Fire Lake	6
01/11	Linda Kovac, Secretary- Treasurer	688-5356 phone 688-5456 fax	lkovac@chugiakcouncil.org	At Large - East Mirror Lake	3
01/11	Karla Beller	688-8061	bellers@ak.net	At Large - Eklutna/ Thunderbird	5
01/10	Paula Caywood	694-8758	cmmgen@mtaonline.net	East Peters Creek	2
01/10	Tom Devine	688-0618	akdevine@mtaonline.com	At Large - West Mirror Lake	4
01/11	Randy McCain	229-6009	mccain@mtaonline.net	West Peters Creek	1
01/10	Jason Walsh	688-9088	walshj73@yahoo.com	At Large	8
01/10	Bill Mears	622-4077	meredithmrs@aol.com	Alternate Board Member	n/a
01/10	Harold Parker	696-2684	dippercreek@hotmail.com	Alternate Board Member	n/a

***The Chugiak Community Council serves Fire Lake, Chugiak, Peters Creek, Mirror Lake, Thunderbird Heights, and Eklutna. We meet at 7pm on the third Thursday of the month at the Chugiak Benefit Association's south building (18530 Old Glenn Hwy).***

***Matanuska Telephone Association is donating the use of email accounts to Chugiak Community Council officers.***

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