Basher Community Council Meeting August 27, 2008 Baxter Elementary School

Meeting called to order by Dave Keddington at 7:05pm

The previous minutes were reviewed & approved.

Members Present: 20 members present

Guest(s) Present: Heather Ireland (for Sheila Selkregg), Monica Alvarez (with the Department of Natural Resources) and Tom Harrison (with the Chugach State Park)

Old Business

The purpose of the meeting was to, again, discuss the sale of 140 to The Conservation Fund, take public feedback and to approve a resolution to support the purchase of this land.

Both Monica Alvarez and Tom Harrison were on hand to give a short synopsis of what their role is in all of this and to answer questions or filed concerns that the community might have.

Monica is working on putting together the access plan and trail plan for the areas. She said anyone can access the website at www.alaskastateparks.org to get additional information on the planning on the project. If you have any concerns or any input, please e-mail her (monica.alvarez@alaska.gov) and cc Dave Keddington (since he is on the focus group for this project).

Dirk Sisson gave an overview on how The Conservative Fund plans to purchase the land (which Joe Henry owns). He showed a layout of the park and where the access points are now and where the land is in conjunction with these.

Resolution: A resolution was written that conveys that the Stuckagain Heights neighborhood supports the sale of the property to The Conservation Fund but requests that both The Conservation Fund and Chugach State Park will work closely together to plan the use of the parcel. This resolution was approved by the attendees at the meeting.

Many of the concerns that were brought up in the meeting were the same from our previous meeting (parking area, increased traffic on roads, vandalism, etc).

As stated before, there is a focus group regarding this subject and Dave said that it may be wise for the residents in the area close to the land that is going to be purchased to either join their focus group or make a sub-focus group.

New Business

Chipper Day – Only three people took advantage of this program.

Trash Cans – There is an 80% participation rate, so the Stuckagain Heights neighborhood is doing an outstanding job.

LRSA – The work on the road was done by the Municipality (due to all the phone calls they received on how bad the road was), it should last a couple of years. Ted Trueblood spoke to the group (he is the Stuckagain LRSA representative) and he said that because the grant for the work to be done on the road was vetoed by the Governor – we need to try to get it approved for next year. So we need to keep talking to our assembly. The cost will be over 1 million (which would include a bike trail).

Eric Johnson worked with the Municipality to get signs placed in the area.

It was also brought up the problem with the students running up the roads – they do not run in single file and it is very dangerous. Ted said that he would get a letter out to Carol Comeau asking to have the students run in single file – also will add in the letter funding for a bike path!

Bear cub – The bear cub is still wandering around the area. Contact information: Rick Sinnot 242-0424, State Trooper Dispatch (non ER) 428-7200 opt #1 and Jessy (w/ ADF&G) 267-2811.

Heather Ireland spoke on the behalf of Sheila Selkregg. She discussed the approving the budget, Title 21 (which the Assembly is NOT looking for comments as of right now) and that in the fall they will be starting an East Side District Plan – which she believes that Basher will not be in it.

Invasive Plants – Gail Coray brought several brochures on the invasive plants/weeds in Alaska and gave a short discussion on them.

Meeting adjourned.