

Eagle River Valley Community Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 12, 2008

President Bill Holland opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Introductions were made.

Approval of minutes: Minutes from October 2008 membership meeting were distributed. Sarah Wright moved approval of minutes, Tom Freeman second. Unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: submitted by Sarah Wright. Heritage Estates Well Compensation fund checking account balance=\$3,587.09, the biannual notice was published 11/06/08 in the Alaska Star.

Certificates of Deposit:

\$25,000.00	36 month renewed 02/28/08 @ 2.91%
\$6,139.36	12 month renewed 06/02/08
\$6,136.73	12 month renewed 09/19/08
\$5,963.75	12 month renewed 12/13/07

Eagle River Valley Community Council Checking account balance=\$282.36

Tom Freeman moved to approve treasurer's report, Austin Zimiga second. Unanimously approved.

INVITED GUESTS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Chugiak/Eagle River Parks and Recreation: John Rhodda

Mr. Rhodda reminded community council members about the 1 mil appropriation for local parks and recreation approved by voters five years ago. The mil rate provides \$1.1-1.6 million annual revenues. Currently there are 35 different projects (20 parks). John detailed three major events:

1) Mt. Baldy land exchange: 80 acres traded 20 acres from Edmunds Lake plus \$600,200

2) Chugiak High School artificial turf: \$1 million from State, \$400,000 from tax base

3) Eagle River High School: 3 1/2-4 kilometers of 20 foot wide groomed trails completed as of October 2008. Anticipated cost of 32-33 kilometers of groomed trails, \$80,000 (Anchorage School District will offset the cost by \$20,000).

The NW quarter of section 25: Two years ago the State of Alaska received approval to extract gravel. Mr. Rhodda expects that 145 acres will be added to the 1,600 existing acres at Beach Lake Park. The master plan is 35 years old, so P&R is updating the master plan.

McDonald Center expansions (2,500-2,700 sq.feet) expected to cost between \$8-10 million and will include indoor turf.

Skateboard/BMX Park has been experiencing some 'behavioral' problems on the part of participants so the equipment was removed and currently looking for a new home.

Now that winter has arrived, John encouraged attendees to have an emergency safety kit in their vehicle, to dress for the climate conditions and to check the terrain when sledding, skating, etc. Remember if you venture out on frozen lakes, it's a minimum six inch thickness for pedestrians, 12 inches for vehicles. John reminds individuals to BE PREPARED.

Eagle River Towne Center: Municipality of Anchorage and Alaska Club purchased the building, it now has a new roof. Interior renovations start soon, agencies that will be housed in the renovated facility include APD substation, the library, CBERRRSA, WIC clinic, Development Services, Parks & Rec Offices and the Emergency Operations

Center. The library expects to move in April 2009.

Downtown Eagle River Overlay District: Eagle River Chamber of Commerce: Mike Meliello and Susan Gorski

This presentation was related to land use planning and the fact that right now the Eagle River business district is B-3. The Chamber provided grant funding to Land Design North to survey area residents (done in conjunction with Title 21 Rewrite. Currently 85% of local residents commute into Anchorage or the Valley for employment. 70% of the residents wanted to control and/or limit certain businesses while 80% of the local residents wanted building height kept to four stories. Since the current Title 21 determines what individuals can do on their own property (both business and private), Chugiak/Eagle River is working to establish its own chapter of Title 21. The Chamber is proposing two different height restrictions within the overlay district, 60 feet or 45 feet. Existing buildings would be 'grandfathered' in with limited amount of change allowed for redevelopment. Planning & Zoning needs to approve the overlay district in central Eagle River, then it would go to the Assembly for final approval. Chamber of Commerce members emphasized that they do not require community council approval, they are here to provide information and request support.

NEW BUSINESS

The Chugiak/Eagle River Parks & Recreation Board of Supervisors includes five representatives from the five area community councils plus one representative at large (appointed by the Mayor). **Therese Voehl made the motion to nominate Scott Bailey for Chugiak/Eagle River Parks and Recreation Board alternate, Tom Freeman second, unanimously approved.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Federation of Community Councils: Tom Freeman reported that there were not enough attendees at the last meeting for a quorum. Currently FCC is planning to host the 2010 National Convention in Anchorage.

Education: Linda Kelly reported that ASD has released their annual Profile of Performance. Test results showed a slight decline, academic achievement showed a decline (especially related to the dropout rate). Ms. Kelly reminded council members ASD results can be viewed on line and in the Anchorage Daily News. Bus drivers have been recognized with safety awards (buses are 8 times safer than passenger vehicles).

Emergency Preparedness: Lisa Andersen reported that a disaster drill at Gruening Middle School highlighted the need to improve certain items/actions. Lisa offered some information about AFD coverage of Eagle River Valley (residents beyond mile 5.5 of Eagle River Road do not pay the mil rate for fire protection, instead they may be charged if AFD responds to their location). Anchorage Police Department expressed concern about small amounts of heroin in the high schools, everything else quiet. There has been a change in the recommended ratio of breath to compression when performing CPR, residents are encouraged to update their CPR training. Lisa reminded residents it's 'that time of year' to check your furnace, sweep the chimney and change batteries in smoke/C02 detectors. AFD recommends replacing C02 alarms every five years, smoke detectors every ten. Currently Municipal and State law requires smoke detectors in bedrooms and hallways leading to bedrooms. Lisa mentioned that Anchorage Fire

Department EMTs are using an experimental treatment for heart attack victims that features an IV with potassium/glucose solution plus body cooling.

Parks & Recreation: Sarah Wright reported the Parks & Rec Board approved \$28,000 in grants to organizations including Chugiak Dog Mushers, Campfire, Boys/Girls Club (trash pick-up), Chugiak Soccer Club, Mirror Lake Middle School (timing shed). Sarah mentioned that Assemblyman Bill Starr had proposed an ordinance using Chugiak/Eagle River Park funds that would provide public protection from wildlife (especially bears). The Parks and Rec Board unanimously voted down Mr. Starr's proposal.

Road Board: Bill Holland reported that Eagle River Lane has been added to the Board's CIP list, especially since AFD wants to be able to use Eagle River Lane for access.

Zoning & Platting: No report, chair vacant,

Chugiak/Eagle River Consortium: No report.

Sarah Wright moved to adjourn the meeting 8:35 pm, Tom Freeman seconded. Unanimously approved, meeting formally adjourned. Minutes submitted by Therese Voehl.