

Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, June 9, 2022

DS DRAFT

Location: Internet Zoom Meeting

Board Roll Call - Present: Ann Rappoport (Co-Chair), David Sterling (Secretary), Judy Michael, Keith Guyer, Mike Kenny, Dianne Holmes, Matthew Blakeslee, Amanda Doughty, John Riley.

Absent: Keith Guyer, Michelle Turner, Carl Johnson

Board Member Co-Chair – Ann Rappoport - Opened the meeting formally at 7:00 pm. Asked people to put name in the chat. Determined 9 board members and a total of over 59 attendees, Declared a Quorum and General Meeting. Ann Rappoport described the Google Sign-In Method. RCCC follows Roberts Rules of Order. The attendance list is attached. Advised of recording the meeting. Described methods to vote on issues for this meeting. People calling in on telephone will need to text to a phone number to sign-in and for voting and sign-in. Described voting eligibility, attendance of one prior meeting in past 12 months. Described Zoom protocol and instructions. Asked new members to answer in the chat.

- **June Agenda** – No objections. Approved as written.
- **May Meeting Minutes** – Motion to Approve by Dianne Holmes & 2nd Ky Holland - Minutes approved.

Announcements & Legislative Reports:

- **Assembly Members for RCCC Area -**
- **Suzanne LaFrance** – Contact info: Cell: (907) 351-7199, Voicemail: (907) 343-4122, E-mail: LaFranceS@muni.org – Kurt Parkan on Suzanne's behalf. Discussed various issues.
- **Randy Sulte** – Not present.
- **State Representatives** –
 - **Representative James Kaufman** – rep.elect.james.kaufman@akleg.gov – 907-538-5262 – Not present.
 - **Senator Roger Holland** – sen.elect.roger.holland@akleg.gov – cell 907-351-8277 – Present. Big wins this year include Alaska Reads Act passed unanimously, PFD + Energy Supplement, lots of small things. Expect lots of change after next election cycle.
- **Anchorage School District** – Andrew Holleman – In summer recess now. Will be our Rep for a while longer. August 18th 1st day of school.
- **JBER** – Joy Boston – Will put things in chat. Arctic Valley Run in July. Aerial demonstration in July with Thunderbirds.

New Business and Old Business Requiring Action

- **Alaska Natural Burial Conservation Cemetery Proposal** – Rachel Bernhardt – A natural burial cemetery is a place of natural burial and land conservation. In addition to natural burial, it is a green space. Aesthetically different from a regular cemetery. Only burying thing in the ground that are compostable. Not burying steel, plastic, concrete, resins, or formaldehyde. Ground maintenance might include cultivation for natural vegetation, not planting or mowing grass. Not the normal cemetery restrictions, good place to come and walk your dogs. Traditional cemeteries in Anchorage include: JBER is only for military, Anchorage Memorial Cemetery is older, \$2,500 per person, and will be at capacity in around 5 years. Memorial Cemetery on Klatt Road, lots of space available, expensive. Planning on about 100 burials per acre. Normal cemetery has ±300 burials per acres. Located on Golden View Drive across from Moen Park. Land is in HLB inventory right now. There are trails existing on the parcel. Soil type drains well and is well suited for natural burial. No plan to mess with Moen Trail. Arrangement of burial across the property will be different than cemetery. Burial depth is substantially less than cemeteries. Burial markers will be small, possibly flat. Traffic congestion is being planned. Processions are typically small. Visitations on holidays normally does not make great traffic problems. Parking spaces still need to be planned, hoping for about 15. Natural burials decompose quickly and is a normal process. Not cutting down trees to put a body there. Suggestion parking with geoblocks so it is vegetated, to coordinate parking with Moen Park, and no after-hours access. Cremated internment is expected. Just here to introduce herself and the idea. Drainage pattern of the property is a slope down to Potter Marsh. Contact information in chat.

- **Taras Subdivision S12671 Update** – Dianne Holmes – Preliminary comments due 6/15/22. Presentation by developer representative in April was followed up with letter voicing RCCC concerns. Now have a plat. Trails now indicated on plat.
 - **Motion-Dianne Holmes Pease & 2nd Ky Holland** – To present the original letter to MOA Planning and Platting Department. Results: Yes=23; No=0; Abstain=3. Motion passes.
 - Comments – There is trail connectivity with River Hills subdivision directly across Little Rabbit Creek.
- **156th Ave Neighborhood Concerns** – Concerned people not attending meeting today so will move this subject off to the next RCCC meeting.
- **Mountain Air Estates #2 S12677** – This is a done deal. RCCC had requested a trail. The trail did not get platted. Judy Michaels advises that the plat is still being reviewed and needs more time.
- **Moosemama.org** – Orphan moose sanctuary near Far View Place – Dana 907-310-3650 & dana@moosemama.org – Described the recent history of the Moose Mama organization. Received a permit from Fish & Game to help orphaned baby moose. Six-year existence in Rabbit Creek area. Spent two years on Windsong. Two years on Snowshoe. Received a permit thru MOA for up to 9 animals. Have lots of security with a 3-phase electric fence around the structure. Special bear fence installed. Security cameras in-place. Have released 30 moose calves back into the wild after keeping for about 4½ months. Quite tame around the caregivers. Released at areas across Cook Inlet. After years of work, it is a successful program developed with expert personnel raising baby moose. Volunteer program, so they make no money doing this work. Internship program with many Pre-Biologist students. Creates a good community by doing something bigger than you, to help Alaska natural resources. Needs public support. New facility by Shangri-La. Told new neighbors about their program. Concern at MOA about the word, “Domesticated”. MOA changed their minds, and they are no longer allowed to raise baby moose. Track the moose for 1 month after release. Not all survive. Naturally moose calves have 12% survival rate. For two years in a row their moose had 100% survival rate. Have had failures. Release locations are sometimes assigned, sometimes near wolf packs. Proud that they are allowing the moose calves to go back to nature away from roads. A very special program. Fear of the unknown has caused concerns by nearby neighbors. Former neighbors can attest to no issues with other wildlife, e.g., bears. Moose feces has little odor or issues. Not open to public, so very little traffic. Facility is buffered from the road. Comments:
 - Rocky Plotnick, Secretary of Far View Place Homeowners Association. Studied up about the situation after seeing activity next to their road. Residential neighborhood zoned R10. Contacted various MOA folks. Her email ended up with Craig Lyon, director of Planning at MOA. Reviewed the MOA code standards and determined that this is an animal shelter, which is not allowed in R10 district. Agree with the idea, but feel it is not appropriate in the current location. Requesting support of the RCCC with a letter confirming that the Moose Mama facility is not appropriate in this area.
 - Fred Brown-President of Far View HA – Quoted the MOA code related to animal shelter. Not allowed in R10 area, but in a commercial location. There are allowances for domestic animals. Moose are considered wild animals, The moose mama facility is not shielded from Far View Place. Recent complaint of illegal dumping encroaching on their property during construction activities. Suggestion that the facility be moved to a commercial site or outside of the MOA.
 - Susanne Comellas, former neighbor for many years, attested to how moose mamas were great neighbors. Suggest Far View folks try it, to open your eyes to a new world. You have nothing to fear.
 - Dana-All former Moose Mamas locations were on leased land, a stone’s throw away from the current new location. New location being purchased. Offered a definition of legal terms related to domesticated animals and domestic animals, as related to wild animals.
 - Ann Rappoport – Suggested concerned neighbors have meeting together outside of RCCC meeting, rather than trying to resolve the issue at this meeting. Fred agreed to meet with Moose Mama folks. Those who want to be involved please put contact info in the chat.
 - Intern – Moved up from Minnesota to help moose mamas. Begging for resolution.
 - Keith Dohmen – Neighbor for two years. Moose Mamas were great neighbors and there were no problems. Best thing that ever happened. Professional program Interns are not paid.

- Tami Dohmen – Excellent neighbors. Original had fears but her experience was great. Fully support and volunteer with Moose Mamas.
- **AMATS Project Nominations** – Nancy Pease – Call for private nominations to be submitted. Will prepare a list due in July. Nomination for 2050 Plan. LUTC to discuss. RCCC comments has had some items get onto the AMATS scoring criteria, e.g., dangerous or hazardous sites, greenhouse gas measurements from transportation. Propose a follow-up letter, by Nancy.
- **Motorcycles Racing Up/Down RCCC Area Roads** – Discussed at prior meetings and sent letters. Jess Grunblatt brought up high speed issues with motorcycles. Some reports to MOA have not been addressed. Suggest speed controls. Nathan from Potter Valley HA voiced concern about high speed and noise issues on their 25-mph road. Police calls have not been addressed. Kurt Parkan will bring issue up with Suzanne LaFrance. Judy Michaels stated the same problem exists on Rabbit Creek Road, nightly.
- **Old Seward Oceanview CC Resolution regarding Brown Jug Liquor Store at Huffman Business Park** – Dianne Holmes – Huffman Business Park is the RCCC Business District. RCC has commented on previous liquor store proposals in that area. New building under construction next to Sonic Burger Restaurant proposes clients to be a Starbucks, Pot Shop, and Brown Jug Liquor Store. Listed numerous nearby 5 liquor stores, in addition to restaurants. Feel there are enough liquor stores in the area. Public hearing July 11th.
 - **Motion-Jess Grunblatt & 2nd Dianne Holmes** – To present letter similar to Oceanview CC Resolution opposing the Brown Jug Liquor Store. Results: Yes=20; No=0; Abstain=3. Motion passes.
 - Comments – John Riley-Traffic issue is a separate issue. Sonic Restaurant has traffic problems. Numerous studies done on alcohol stores problems.
- **Land Use & Transportation Committee (LUTC)** – Meets first Thursday of each month.
 - South Potter Marsh Parking Area Upgrades – RCCC has made suggestions for several items including crosswalk, school bus designated area,
 - CIP Survey Top vote getters Identify pedestrian easements, Tony Knowles Coastal Trail erosion, Old Seward Hwy Upgrades Potter Creek to Rabbit Creek pathway, Left Turn Pocket on Rabbit Creek Road, Trails, Golden View and Rabbit Creek Intersection Upgrades, Hillside Fire Prevention and Evacuation Routes, Chugach State Park Access, Golden View Pedestrian & Bike Path
 - **Resilience Committee** – Ky Holland – May 22nd fire on Azalea had an amazing successful response. More active communication issues. Funding did not stay in Capital Budget.
 - **Schools on Trails** – Being upheld by MOA staff. Plan on walking potential trails. Sponsorship of National Park Service with 320 hours of staff assistance.
 - **Storck Park Summer Concert** – June 16th 7 to 8 pm.
 - **HALO** - Property Tax Appraisals info in chat.

Committee Reports

- **FCC** – Optional school lottery out on July 28th. Title 21 presentation. Fairview and Mountain View areas with highway connections of Seward to Glenn Highways.
- **HALO** – Same information as from Sulte. Zoom meeting June 14th 7:00 pm. Developing method to check algorithm MOA use for determining property taxes.
- **Social Media** – No report. Thanks for keeping Facebook active.
- **Treasurer Report** – Probably same as last month. \$1,595 available. \$400 for future scanning.
- Next Meeting** – July 14th. Expect Meeting at Moen Park and on Zoom. One summer month off.
- Motion to Adjourn Keith Guyer and 2nd Ky Holland** - No objections. Approved.
- Meeting adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.