

Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, July 13, 2023

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Location: Storck Park and Internet Zoom Meeting

Board Roll Call - Present: Ann Rappoport (Co-Chair), John Riley (Co-Chair), Keith Guyer (Treasurer), David Sterling (Secretary), Mike Kenny, Nancy Pease, Judy Michael

Absent: Matthew Blakeslee, Carl Johnson, Michelle Turner, Amanda Doughty

Board Member Co-Chair – Ann Rappoport - Opened the meeting formally at 7:10 pm. Asked people to donate to RCCC by giving Keith Guyer some bucks. Urged folks to send in a contribution. Had everyone in attendance introduce themselves by passing around the microphone. Determined 9 board members and a total of over 60 attendees, 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.

- **July Agenda – Motion to Approve by Keith Guyer & 2nd Tom Janidlo** – To approve the agenda as written, with addition of Equestrian Heights Subdivision Update. No objections. Approved.
- **June Meeting Minutes – Motion to Approve by Keith Guyer & 2nd Linda Janidlo** – To approve with changes made by Ann Rappoport. No objections. Approved.
- **Treasurer Report** – June report was Savings \$316.85 + Checking \$1,474.81 = \$1,791.66 available. Outstanding debt encumbered for ongoing records scanning.

Announcements & Legislative Reports:

- **Assembly Members for RCCC Area** -
 - **Randy Sulte** – (907) 343-4121 - Randy.Sulte@anchorageak.gov – Chugach State Park Access Service Area ordinance being worked on. Coming soon. Homeless efforts need funding. Clean Slate town hall on homeless soon.
 - **Zac Johnson** - (907) 343-4122 - Zac.Johnson@anchorageak.gov – Assembly Golden Lion money appropriated and being reviewed. Changes to Title 21 for higher density zoning areas. Bicycle infrastructure ordinance being proposed. Chugach Access Service Area.
 - **Representative Ladie Shaw** – Not present.
 - **Senator Cathy Giessel** – Great to be in person. RCCC is the most active council. Described the boundaries of her Senate District. Energy Symposium started today. Log on with computer or recording. Commonwealth North. Wilson Center in DC that concentrates efforts on the Arctic. Murkowski attended and stated that China is now banning the export of minerals Germanium and Gallium. Alaska produces Germanium from Red Dog Mine, refined in Canada. Gallium is found on Wray River area in the Interior. Need to mine these items smartly. Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation earnings are getting smaller every year and will run out in 2027. The fund itself is robust at \$79 billion which is protected by our constitution.
- **Anchorage School District** – Andrew Holleman – No report.

New Business and Old Business Requiring Action & Reports

- **Open Floor for Quick Comments** - No comments.
- **MOA Assembly Ordinance to Combine Anchorage Zoning into Only Two Zones Update** – Nancy Pease – After June the RCCC sent in suggestion to table this ordinance for now. John

Weddleton is a big proponent of planning and offered a written substitute ordinance. Turn all the energy and concern into 2050 Plan. Takes years to accomplish.

- **Motion by Nancy Pease & 2nd M** – To endorse the concept prepared by John Weddleton to work on the 2050 Plan and table the Zoning Ordinance.
- Vote Results: Yes= 27; No=0; Abstain=0. Motion passes.
- Comments: Judy Michael advises that the 2050 Plan will take years to accomplish. Linda Janidlo recommends that the John Weddleton proposal be shared with other Community Councils. Randy Sulte MOA Assembly said there will be an Assembly Work session on this issue tomorrow and another on July 25th. Ky Holland is in favor of this motion and recommends others support.
- **Clean Slate Strategy on Homelessness** – Our selected citizen representative is Rachel Ries. Does not make sense for a homeless facility in our area. No bus service, no community services, large lots. Perhaps there could be a transitional facility in our area. Lots of information online. Randy Sulte noted 2 task forces have offered ideas. Recently had groups offer ideas on shelters. State of California spent \$17 billion on homeless issues last year. There has been a spike in the homeless population that needs to change.
- **Equestrian Heights Subdivision Issue Update** - Cindy Kinard – Lots of different agencies working on a huge complex set of issues for this area. Permits not in place for work currently underway. Ky Holland requesting Land Use Committee assistance. The project is full of bad ideas.
- **Mountain Air Drive Extension** – PZC Meeting on July 10th had nothing decided. P&Z passed to have Public Hearing on the project. Dianne Holmes advised that staff said RCCC comments were submitted late and would not be considered. So we need to attend the Public Hearing and voice our concerns.
- **Safer Seward Highway Project Update** – Nancy Pease and Ann Rappoport - Biggest project in Alaska right now. Seward Highway from Bird to Rabbit Creek Interchange. \$670 million, but may hit \$1 billion. RCCC has a stakeholder seat on council. Railroad wants a wholistic approach and to be included. Right now just a road project. Considering not allowing Potter Valley Road access south on Seward Highway, making those vehicle drive north to RC interchange and turn around. Lots of different issues to review and consider. See website: <https://safersewardhighway.com/>
- **Fire Station Issues** – John Riley – Met with Fire Chief to discuss closing and relocation of fire stations. Change in assignment of EMS personnel, so less response in RCCC area. John was satisfied with the response time. Consolidate Stations 10 and 8 and build a new station between them under consideration but funding is not yet available. Take Station 12 and move it east. Alaska Regional is proposing an Emergency Room Facility at Industrial Way and Old Seward.
- **Vote on Capital Improvements Project** – Ann Rappoport – Residents need to vote on the survey so authorities will know what our top priorities are.
- **Rabbit Creek Gateway Sign** – Joel Cladouhos – Corner of Rabbit Creek Road and Old Seward Hwy to install a Welcome to Rabbit Creek Sign. On BLM Property. Need volunteers. Described progress made. Application by City to BLM. Community Connectivity needs a committee to brainstorm ideas and develop a way to present issues. Have a block party.
- **Trails** – Need help whacking weeds.
- **Schools on Trail** – Meeting in August.
- **Resilience Committee** – Ky Holland – Next meeting July 24th. Good summer for wildfires. Keep a list of neighbor phone numbers. Meeting 4th Monday of month.
- **Social Media** – No report.
- **Next Meeting** – Skipping August meeting. September 14, 2023. Zoom meeting.
- **Motion to Adjourn Keith Guyer & 2nd Vivian Mendenhall** - No objections. Approved.
- **Meeting adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.