

Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, February 13, 2025
DS DRAFT

Location: Goldenview Middle School Library and Internet Zoom Meeting

Board Roll Call - Present: Tim Alderson (Chair), Mike Malvick (Vice-Chair), Matt Blakslee (Treasurer), David Sterling (Secretary), Judy Michael, Nancy Pease, Ann Rappoport, Grace Johnston, John Riley

Absent: Amanda Dougherty, Justin Veit

Board Member Chair Tim Alderson - Opened the meeting formally starting at 7:05 pm. Requested everyone to sign-in on Zoom or on paper at GV. Determined 9 board members and over 52 attendees total on zoom and in person. Declared a Quorum and General Meeting. Tim Alderson 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. Land Acknowledgement – Meeting on unceded lands of the Dena'ina Athabaskan.

- **February Agenda** – Tim Alderson asked about additions. Hearing none, approval of February Agenda. No objections.
 - **Motion Judy Michael & 2nd Matt Blakeslee** - To Approve Agenda. No objections - Approved.
- **January and November Minutes** – Tim Alderson discussed January and November minutes were on line with copies floating around the room for approval.
 - **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Grace Johnston** - To Approve the Minutes. Regarding the November minutes, a note regarding the presentation by Rachel Blakeslee about not closing the Bear Valley School. Voice vote, no objections - Approved.
- **Treasurer Report** – February amounts: Savings \$xxx + Checking \$xxx = \$1,956.13 available. Outstanding debt encumbered for ongoing records scanning. Suggest \$25/year donation per family. Discussed purchasing a RCCC OWL audio & video device.
- **Persons Not on the Agenda** – Cindy Wray – Concern about wildfire protections that need to be taken soon. Ky Holland supports raising level of concern and preparations due to dry conditions.
 - **Motion Ky Holland & 2nd Ann Rappoport** - To send a general resolution letter of concern and preparations to OEM, AFD, BLM, and Assembly about the dry conditions. More preparation needs to be done now. Nancy Pease wants to include APD in the notice for residence access and traffic management plans. Ready, Set, Go preparations. To make sure equipment and helicopters are ready and available, need to start in February instead of April. Judy Michael mentioned potential volcanic activity at Mt Spurr, that would affect air and vehicle activity.
 - Results: Yes = 22 No = 0 Abstain = 2 - Motion passes.

Announcements & Legislative Reports:

- **Assembly Members for RCCC Area -**
 - **Randy Sulte** – (907) 343-4121 - Randy.Sulte@anchorageak.gov – Not present.
 - **Zac Johnson** - (907) 343-4122 - Zac.Johnson@anchorageak.gov – Mayor's Community Grant Program applications for this year thru March 10th, \$315k to be allocated to non-profits highlighting Public Safety, Housing, Preparedness, and Beyond. Juneau trip by Assembly members to lobby for funding: snow removal, secure our energy future, stable funding for public schools, restoring defined benefits. Requested \$3.1 mil for wildfire prevention. Assembly passed Suspending Residential Design Standards. Ordinance proposed to Recriminalize jaywalking. WildFire Manager thru 2027, then hope to Operationalize that. AFD has grant for 18 firefighters. Changes to Title 21. Sales Tax proposal in 2nd week of March, if passed, special election next fall. Summit on Homelessness March 20&21. Ordinance by Meg Zaletel being developed that would make District Plans advisory in nature. Waiting to see what it says. Discussion that RCCC would probably not support this.
- **Representative Ky Holland** – Cell (907) 727-2735 - Co-Chair Energy Committee, and on Military Committee and Finance Committee. Newsletter started. March 8th back in ANC for a Town Hall. Various bills numbers and comments in chat.
- **Senator Cathy Giessel** –cell (907) 242-5450 – sen.cathy.giessel@akleg.gov Shared Permanent Fund presentation – Trustees (and Cathy) recommend combining the Principal Fund & Earnings Reserves Account into one account to better protect the fund and its support for services/PFDs.

- **Anchorage School District** – Carl Jacobs – Cell (907-632-7285) – email = jacobs_carl@asdk-12.org – Described ASD issues. Budget \$111 mil deficit. No new funding from State legislature. Deficit will mean numerous cuts now being discussed. Sign-up to speak at next meeting. Student cellphone usage being discussed. Answered questions on budget, cuts, and why Office of DEI got 20% increase? This re-aligned programs for deaf students within budget so shuffling, not change.
- **Candidate – Keith McCormick** – Running for Assembly – Not running against Randy Sulte who is now in a different district. Lives in South Anchorage went to school at GV & South, then Marine Corps. EMT in Whittier. Various jobs, currently PA in Adult Psychiatry. Provided his perspectives and answered questions.

New Business and Old Business Requiring Action & Reports

- **Potter Ridge Subdivision** -Tony Hoffman of TBC Inc. – Plat shown on screen. Fourth presentation. Along Potter Valley Road at sharp left turn, going up the hill. 13 lots. Been working design to meet code. 12% grade into subdivision 50' private road maintained by separate HOA. Trail on easement, realigned at intersection. Good gravel and no subsurface or above grade water. Road will not be gated. Separate HOA that maintains the road. Not an extension of the adjacent Potter Valley HOA. Nathan from Potter Valley HOA Rep: HOA is meeting in March and needs to discuss this. Tony will review previously issued comment letter before plat. Nancy Pease comments: 1) Difficulty of trail on easement across private property. 2) Prefers a common road maintenance entity, rather than separate. 3) Need non-motorized access way.
- **Protection of the Permanent Fund** – Sen Cathy Giessel – Presentation with power point slides that is available on RCCC website. Major policy change being proposed. Not about the dividend. A fiscal plan that will grow and expand the fund. RCCC District has the highest voter participation area in the State and best organized Community Council of her 12 Councils. Reviewed history of the Permanent Fund. 1969 first Lease Sale brought in \$900 mil. State budget was \$165 mil. In 5 years \$900 mil was gone. 1976 ballot for a Constitutional Amendment creating the Permanent Fund that passed. 1980 a dividend established that began in 1982 under a formula still in place today. 2018 passed Percent of Market Value (POMV) Spending Limit, that goes into Earnings Reserve Account. 2008 to 2018 high oil prices allowed for saving \$18 billion into the Constitutional Budget Reserve. 2002 proposal that only 5% of Market Value could come out as a spending limit. Voters said nothing should be spent by government, provide as a dividend. Now oil only pays 13% of State budget. Reviewed how money is spent with bar chart. Governor wants \$2.5 billion for PFD. Alaska is largest USA Sovereign Wealth fund around. PFC purpose is to manage and invest assets for current and future Alaskans. Described unrealized money, like Real Estate. CPI plus 5% is the goal. Fund is not always inflation proofed because price of oil dropped so low. \$18 billion in the Constitutional Budget Reserve is now down to \$2.5 billion, because it covered low times. Taking money out of Earnings Reserve Account (ERA) only takes a majority vote of legislature, and they do it often to balance the budget. Trustee Board published white paper stating, Two account structure, 1) Principal 2) With an ERA, introduces significant risks on POMV funds. Recommendation: Constitutional Amendment to establish a single endowment account. Eliminate the ERA and keep all the money in the big fund protected from spending, but provides an annual Percent of Market Value amount that would come out and go into the General Fund, that pays the PFD along with all the various State budget items. Suspend inflation proofing because it is automatic. Forced realization. Does not mean any change to the dividend system, it will be an annual appropriation battle. For Constitutional Amendment to pass, it takes two-thirds of both House and Senate, then onto the next General Election ballot.
- **CAPSIS Proposal** – Ann Rappoport – Capital Budget Proposals priorities. Requests for funding on various projects ranked by priority. Little money available, but one never knows what will be accepted and we want to let the legislature know our priorities. Successful requests have included: 1) Wildfire mitigation money 2) Potter Marsh Parking lot with Restrooms (used CAPSIS proposals to obtain Muni ARPA funds). Six proposals this year: 1) Old Seward Hwy Safety Corridor 2) Golden

View Non-motorized path. 3) RC Road Upgrade, with left turn pocket on down hill west bound lane at Old Seward. 4) Water Capacity Study, wells drying up on hillside. 5) Chugach State Park Access upgrade roads. 6) Stranded Pedestrian Easements.

- **Motion Grace Johnston & 2nd Ann Rappoport** - To accept the CAPSIS proposed projects.
 - Results: Yes = 21 No = 0 Abstain = 1 - Motion passes.
- **Variance Request Regarding 50-ft setback for Lot on Elizabeth Street** – Matt Blakeslee - Land Use & Transportation Committee reviewed the request. Request is for a small part of the lot to encroach upon the 50-ft setback requirement due to the layout and topography of the lot. Several other houses along Elizabeth also encroach the setback limit. House is angled so only a corner encroaches. In general, we support setbacks, but in this instance variance is OK.
 - **Motion Matt Blakeslee & 2nd Linda Janidlo** - To support the Variance Request in this particular instance. RCCC prefers the setback to be followed, except in special circumstances.
 - Results: Yes = 20; No = 0; Abstain = 2 - Motion passes.
- **Increase from \$500k to \$750k for Park Projects Without Admin Review** – Ann Rappoport – Increase the ceiling of Park Projects up to \$750k, because prices have increased.
 - **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Matt Blakeslee** - To write letter to Planning & Zoning in support of Increase from \$500k to \$750k for Park Projects Without Admin Review.
 - Results: Yes = 19; No = 1; Abstain = 2 - Motion passes.
- **Jaemley Subdivision S-12696 Request for 2-Year Extension** – Ann Rappoport – this proposed subdivision is off Mountain Air south of Bear Valley School, Plat was approved. Did not finish the required work due to weather. Concern about egress.
 - **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Grace Johnston** - To concur with 2-Year extension as long as they follow the RCCC comments and egress issues.
 - Results: Yes = 23; No = 1; Abstain = 0 - Motion passes.
- **Proposal to Increase Height Restrictions for Multi-Use B-3 Zones** – Ann Rappoport – Currently there are different height allowances between business and residential use in B3 zone.
 - **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Grace Johnston** - To concur with Proposal to Equalize the allowable height of structure between Residential and Non-Residential. Same setbacks
 - Results: Yes = 22; No = 0; Abstain = 0 - Motion passes.
- **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Grace Johnston** - Extend meeting 15 minutes. Approved.

New Business and Old Business Requiring Action & Reports Not Critical

- **Land Use Committee** –
- **2040 Land Use Plan** – 1) Rabbit Creek Road Upgrade received \$500k for design. 2) Safer Seward Hwy – Public Relations advised – re portion of project from Weigh Station to Rabbit Creek, AMATS Policy Committee voted to take that out of the Long Range Transportation Plan because of cost overruns. Was \$90k, went to \$270k, AMATS is on the hook for a portion of that, DOT wants to do the whole project and still in discussion. 3) Seward to Glenn Highway revised, added lanes from 36th Ave to Airport Heights area. DOT wants a freeway thru there. Comment period open.
- **Resilience Committee** – Meets 4th Monday of each month.
- **FCC** – Report in chat. FCC Retreat coming up. Plan to send someone.
- **HALO** – Judy Michael – discussed ordinance about B3 zoning issues.
- **Education Committee** – Matt and Rachel Blakeslee want to start and will head up this committee with a goal of informing people with tools and resources on Public Education. Board can form an Ad Hoc committee. No vote required. The committee was blessed.
- **Schools on Trail** – No report.
- **Social Media** – No report.
- **Next Meeting** – March 13, 2025. Zoom meeting only, because of Spring Break at GV School.
- **Meeting adjournment** – **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Grace Johnston** - Adjourned at 9:18 pm.