

# Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, February 8, 2018

## DRAFT-Rev 1

Location: Golden View Middle School Library

Board Roll Call - Present: Frank Pugh (Chair), Matt Cavanaugh (Vice-Chair), Paul Gionet (Treasurer/Membership Coordinator), David Sterling (Secretary), Ky Holland, Janie Dusel, Nancy Pease, Bert Lewis, Greg Wika, Dennis Miller, Larry Keil, Alternate Person: TBD

Excused: All Present

Board Member Chair – Frank Pugh - Opened the meeting at 7:02pm. Declared a General Membership meeting. Current Board followed by new members all introduced themselves.

- **Motion Paul Gionet & 2<sup>nd</sup> Keith Guyer** - To approve tonight's agenda, approved with some items added. Passed.
  - **Motion Dianne Holmes & 2<sup>nd</sup> Pat Abney** - Move reports to bottom of agenda and allow extra time tonight's activities. Motion passed.

**Motion Paul Gionet & 2<sup>nd</sup> Dianne Holmes** – January & December Meeting Minutes motion to approve with these edits:

- January - Page 2, New Business, Nancy Pease HLB, A) 1<sup>st</sup> sentence change, "... HLB Draft Document for review.", to "HLB Draft Work Program for review." B) Change 4<sup>th</sup> sentence to read, "HLB offered to have the Draft Work Plan to add parcels as Conservation Watershed Parcels."
- December minutes page 3 Lewis & Clark Subd, 5<sup>th</sup> tick item change "real easement", to "a public trail easement."
- Motion approved.
- Attendance - Total ±77 people in attendance. General Membership Meeting.

### Announcements & Legislative Reports:

#### • **Assembly Members -**

- Suzanne LaFrance – our assembly member for RCCC area - Contact info: Phone: (907) 351-7199, Voicemail: (907) 343-4122, E-mail: [LaFranceS@muni.org](mailto:LaFranceS@muni.org)  
Suzanne here tonight. Arrived late. Adam Lees as Suzanne's designated Representative, gave brief announcements.
- John Weddleton – Chugach Access issue is on his agenda of things to accomplish, because issue failed at poles. Gate at Stewart trail might be included.

#### • **State Representatives**

- Cathy Giessel and Jennifer Johnson not present tonight.
- **Anchorage School Board** - Andy Holleman – present, see below.

### Presentations

**Andy Holleman & ASD Treasurer - ASD School Board** - Talking about school board bond issues on April 2018 ballot. Handed out a flier with detailed information. Mostly roof repairs. <\$10 per \$100k home valuation because retiring of various other debts. Roofs are beyond maintenance issues, but needing complete replacement. A capital expense improvement that are not trivial repairs, major repairs. Early funding for education at legislature. ASD working on budget now to go to legislature. Flat funding means no advancement. ASD wants to get budget approved and out of the way early in session to make sure they know what budget is, so they do not have to hand out meaningless pink slips in May, like last year.

**Ric Davidge – Community Council Task Force on Crime** – Meeting 2/20/2018 at 3000 C Street 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room at 11:30 am. 91% of stolen vehicles are recovered in 5 days with minor or no damage. Reorganize patrols by district. Task force will meet every 2 weeks until no longer needed.

**Joyce Anderson – Vote by Mail** – Arrived later, see report below.

**ML&P and Chugach Electric Merger - Lee Thibert CEO Chugach Electric, and employees Teri Hyer, Arthur Miller, Julie Hasquet** – Proposition 10 covers ML&P merger with Chugach – Handed out a flier along with a Power Point Presentation with numerous details including: One electric utility makes sense because of our community size. Been working on this merger for years. Conoco Beluga River Gas field Chugach recently bought 1/3 gas field. Power pool managing all generation running for all utilities. Operate all utilities will save \$8 to \$10 mil per year. Logical step to put 2 utilities together. Reviewed Timeline of Sale which is a yearlong process. Guiding Principles slide. No cut of employees. 4% to 5% leave by attrition which will be the reduction. Chugach needs the ML&P employees. Good for community. Will save operating costs of \$15 -\$20 mil per year. Coop Members – 7 member board. Not for profit. Deal will save big bucks over time. Borrow \$700 mil to do deal. Favorable interest rates at this time. Industry is changing. Solar, energy efficiency. Do not expect a load growth for 10 years and need to get smarter. Showed map. Arthur Miller VP walked thru transaction of the Chugach Offer. 80% is already paid by ML&P because of debt. Trading debt, walked thru the numbers on slide. Key Component slide broke down acquisition payments. Cost of Capital slide showed a \$1 mil per year savings. Acquisition payment slide leads to lower long term rates. Where Do Savings Come From slide. Teri Hyer CFO, Financial strength of Chugach is really good. Dianne Holmes asked about small grants to non-profits like ML&P granted in the past. Fire island wind can't take all energy into system at times some has to curtail. Now have greater access to hydro electric resources. Ward Hurlburt – larger service territory, ML&P area has more industrial users, vote is up to all members. Chugach expects to add more board members, from 7 to probably 9 members. No management disruption are expected. What are the unknowns? No one had any bad issues. No problems with gas supply issues. Older power plants will be mothballed. Will continue to look at new technology for more efficiencies. R&D looking at organization. Ky Holland expressed concern that the merger may be a

Trojan horse situation. Mayor Berkowitz provided assurance that was not the issue. There will be legacy customer distinctions. Everyone will benefit from this. Money either goes into municipal trust fund or into some other budget location. No mad money. After 30 years, payoff complete.

**Mayor Ethan Berkowitz** – State of Alaska in an unstable situation. Accomplishes synergy and give MOA flexibility. Police Officer population was 320 in 2015, at 425 Officers today. Comparable sized cities would have over 600 officers. 93% cars returned, not 91%. District Attorneys population now 27, used to be 35. Troopers used to be all over, but with state budget cuts no longer. MOA has to come forward. MOA has AAA bond rating.

**Questions for Mayor & Responses** - Ky Holland - HDP worked for years on issues and changes that are not being accepted now, like the stream setback issues. All plans can't be viewed as static. Dianne Holmes - Was plan an ordinance document? Bill Greene is his chief of staff. Vivian Mendenhall measured streams going thru undeveloped land. Reason to reduce by MOA, non-objective issues. Ric Davidge developers are required to show how they comply with HDP, and if not they have to show why not, as if it was statute. Nancy Pease - HDP states 50' setback at streams. Changing it to 25' setback seems like a back door attempt to go around that. Mayor said, Sometime we forget that this is a small town and people need to allow accommodations. Dianne Holmes - Rest of US trying to get back 50' setbacks, and someone now forcing 25' setbacks. Pat Abney - Very little zonal accommodations. Mindy Willis - HDP is a plan, not code. Mayor is not in a position to legally defend. Janie Dusel - Opioid drug issues, how to curb this problem. Lots of Opioids are sent via US Mail, UPS, and FedEx. Suppliers keep sending until the drugs get thru delivery systems. 16 detox beds in ANC, FAI has 34 beds. Mayor want to add Beds and structures at Clitheroe Center. Brother Francis Center has people dumped at their door step by API. Not going backwards, but moving forward. AFD is also incredible on the front line of this epidemic. Mayor concerned about Fires on Hillside, Communications, traffic & access issues, technologies with drones, where to go get water when they need it. At some point people need to be able to do things for themselves. No tsunamis in ANC because of mud flats. We should not have received the recent tsunami warning. Paul Gionet and another person spoke in favor of the new stream setback ordinance, presented very well by MOA staff, good approach, and he felt like the MOA was listening to the entire community instead of bringing down the hammer. Paul Gionet thanked the Mayor for coming. Mayor-Incredible city, we are fortunate. The view from this school is amazing.

**Potter Valley** – MOA Attorney Becky Windt Pearson - Stewart Homestead Trail and how it involves this community. Worried about parking for trail use. Been talking about it for several years. Ky Holland – Voiced concern about this topic that is not on the agenda. Access to Chugach State Park and Stewart Trail are not on the agenda. If there was a question to the mayor, then OK. Mayor advised he is not magically endowed with powers. Wants people to work together. Urges the community to find a way forward that does not require litigation. Looking for alternative ways to resolve this issue. Frank Pugh wanted to discuss the issue together. Frank has invested in property and the access issue means he has gotten out to meet and develop relationships with the community and neighbors. Wants to lay out all the options and discuss. Mike Kenny says this issue was not on the agenda so that people could see and prepare for the subject. Janie Dusel advised folks are trying to solve on another forum. Mike Kenny what are other trailheads. Mayor Berkowitz - One difficulty is the area is not part of the Chugach Park. There are levels of jurisdictional that need to be figured out. Dianne Holmes advised that there are people who knew Mrs. Stewart, like herself and fellow Homesteaders David Michael Family. Mrs Stewart gave permission for public to travel the road at will and hike on the property. Neighbors were of the understanding that is not a private road. Frank Pugh voiced that is good that we broached the subject.

**League of Women Voters - Joyce Anderson - Vote by mail** - Handed out a leaflet. Ballots out by March 13<sup>th</sup>. Only being sent to current address. Ballots not forwarded. Their group is non-partisan. Need to sign the ballot. Signature verification equipment at MOA will scan and check signatures. Signature is the final validity check. If not matched, ballot will be put aside and reviewed. Bar coded and checked by USPS. Return is by: 1) Postage stamp, 2) Drop off boxes, 3) vote at centers. Tabulation on election day with tentative results provided. Maximum 10 days after election date for all mail to arrive and finalize tabulation. Absentee ballots are available. Use black ink, no other colors.

**Motion Vivian Mendenhall & 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Juslin** – Add 10 minutes to meeting. Friendly amendment by Paul Gionet to add treasurer report and Bluebell report. OK No objections

**Bluebell and Golden View Road Intersection – Janie Dusel** – Lengthen Bluebell to lessen slope of Bluebell at intersection. **Motion Janie Dusel & 2<sup>nd</sup> Bert Lewis** - To write resolution of support that we are on board with the project. Janie read the letter. Change top priority to important. No Objection. Motion passed.

## **RCCC Reports** t

- **Chair Report** – Frank Pugh – Short review.
- **Membership & Outreach & Transportation & Land Use** - Nancy Pease – No report
- **Treasurer's Report:** Finance Paul Gionet - \$420 in donations = Savings \$315.61 + Checking \$614.55 = \$930.16.
- **Outreach** - Janie Dusel – No report.
- **Communications** – David Sterling & Janie Dusel – No report.
- **Correspondence** – Paul & Susanne Gionet and Oxsana Pugh – No report.
- **FCC** - No recent meeting. **HALO** – Mike Kenny – Short discussion.

**Meeting adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at ±9:03 pm.