

# **Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, February 13, 2020**

## **For Approval hrh**

Location: Bear Valley School Art Room

Board Roll Call - Present: Ky Holland (Co-Chair), David Sterling (Secretary), Keith Guyer, Dianne Holmes, Jess Grunblatt, Mike Kenny, Joel Cladouhos

Absent: Ann Rappoport, Bert Lewis, Ann Rappoport, Judy Michael, Paul Gionet

Board Member Co-Chair – Ky Holland - Opened the meeting at 7:07 pm. 9 board and over 13 members. Declared a General Membership Meeting.

- **Agenda** – No hardcopies available. Approved as written.
- **Minutes** – **Motion Jess Grunblatt & 2<sup>nd</sup> Keith Guyer** – January Minutes – Approved as written.
- Attendance - Total with 21 RCCC members in attendance. General Membership Meeting.

### **Announcements & Legislative Reports:**

- **Assembly Members for RCCC Area -**
  - Suzanne LaFrance – Contact info: Cell Phone: (907) 351-7199, Voicemail: (907) 343-4122, E-mail: [LaFranceS@muni.org](mailto:LaFranceS@muni.org) – Not present tonight.
  - John Weddleton – e-mail: [WeddletonJ@muni.org](mailto:WeddletonJ@muni.org) – Arrived late.
- **State Representatives** – Jennifer Johnston - not present tonight. Senator Cathy Giessel – not present tonight.
- **ASD School Board Member** – Andy Holloman – Two things. First - Bond proposal, \$82 million, handout provided with lots of details. Gruening gets majority of the money. Major upgrade. Eagle River Elementary at \$3.2 mil, Inlet View Elementary at \$3.3 mil, Aquarian Charter at \$6.8 mil. Retiring a major debt amount this year, and this is a two year bond, there will not be a school district bond measure next year. If this bond passes cost to property taxpayers \$6.85 per \$100k valuation. Second item – Budget \$19 million deficit. Discussion about
- **ANC Fire Department Station 10** – Not present tonight.
- **Treasurers Report** – Savings at \$316.21 + Checking at \$1,462.69 = \$1,778.90
- **Jerry George – RV Storage Park on Rabbit Creek Community Church property** - As of today that area is no longer exempt from paying property tax. Zoned R6, church wants to get a waiver for no property tax. Asking for help to oppose the commercial RV storage area in R6 zoning. Church is aware that neighbors are aware of their request with City.
  - **Motion Jess Grunblatt 2<sup>nd</sup> Nowrin Withers** – To oppose allowing the variance for the church to allow RV and other storage.
    - Ky Holland looking for what the process will be. Possibly going thru administratively without comments by public. Vote by hand count = 14 In Favor + 1 opposed + 0 abstention, Motion carries.
- Nowrin Withers – Property Located at 3741 Ptarmigan Terrace – Rocking B Riding Facility - Concerned about a large animal storage facility on a property close to his house. November of 2019, the Landowner has let their animal control facility license expire and then leased the facility out to another party, which is outside the scope of Title 21 Ordinance. The new user has been dumping manure closer than 100' of his domestic water well. Nowrin investigation has resulted in finding several violations going on at the facility. Brad Larsen, MOA Land Use Enforcement Rep, has been contacted who issued a Notice of Violation to Property Owner and person leasing the facility. Permitted by MOA for Quonset Hut type structure sized at 72'x110'x38' tall, originally was called Rocking B Riding Facility. Jerry George advised that the facility licensed to accommodate 299 people and 10 horses, with 1 fire exit, no other fire alarms, no toilet facilities. He has questioned the MOA on that subject. Land Use Committee to investigate the situation. Mike Kenny assisting with historical documents.

### **New Business**

- **Alaska Dept of Fish & Game – Joe Meehan - Improvements at Potter Marsh** – Provided lots of large handouts showing proposed improvements at Potter Marsh. Get over 200,000 visitors a year. Existing boardwalks extended 11 years ago. Had to get funds. Went to Conoco Phillips who have stepped up with a lot of funding in the past and now requesting additional funds. Went thru drawings and plans. AMATS has ruled that they can no longer have dead end boardwalks, they need to go somewhere. Extend north boardwalk along the Seward Hwy by 80 lf with viewing area and circle. South side by mailboxes add a more defined parking area, move mailboxes across the parking area, build a graveled walkway with gated boardwalk out to the water at two locations. Discussed the Falcated Duck that took up residence last summer drawing lots of visitors from afar. Little Survival Creek provides most of water for the marsh from the southeast side that filters north. Rabbit Creek and Little Rabbit Creek water comes into the marsh and right out not providing much to the overall marsh. Dredging was done in 2008, then flooded in 2013 and filled in about half. No habitat enhancement on this project.
  - Connections to Bird TLC – Wish list project to add boardwalk up to new Bird TLC. Rebuild of old boardwalk being designed by UAA Engineering to wiggle around and upgrade to meet code.
  - Children use of boardwalk is appreciated by RCCC members. Skating and kites in winter. Looking for more year-round use opportunities.
  - DOT agrees that pull outs are necessary, but upgrades are not in current plans because of future re-routing of Seward Hwy. Might consider Old Seward Highway connection trails, bike paths, and pullouts.

### **Old Business** –

- **Metro 2040 - Nancy Pease** - 293-page document. Mid/last century plan, so antiquated. Policy document. Scoring system for projects and a budget. Heavily invested in freeways and highways. Modeled after congested freeway at rush hour. Goals are outdated started in 2008. Objectives are not specific. Five points to think about:
  - Modeled for computers based on congestion at peak rush hours, that has been in place for two decades and the Feds make you keep that model.

- Data – Most from more than 10 years ago. For example, bicycle data from 2007 thru 2014, so does not take into account new things, like fat bikes in winter.
- Scoring heavily favors freeways, giving that the most points.
- Goals – outdated from over 10 years ago.
  - Objective for plan are not very specific or targeted. Nothing about Greenhouse gases, MOA Climate Action Plan goal to reduce by 40% which is not in the plan.
- List of projects in detailed handout, starting with RCCC area projects discussed by Jesse Grunblatt:
  - Rabbit Creek Road Seward Hwy to Goldenview – speed management and intersection upgrades with turning lane for critical turning areas.
  - Mountain Air Drive – extend from Bear Valley School area to East 164<sup>th</sup> Ave or 156<sup>th</sup>.
  - Golden View Drive from RC Road to Romania – upgrade to collector standards
  - Seward Hwy reconstruction from Potter Weigh Station to 154<sup>th</sup> – Consider moving highway west of railroad tracks.
  - Seward Hwy from Rabbit Creek Road to Girdwood –
  - Old Seward Hwy Rabbit Creek Road to Potter Road on east side of Potter Marsh repair and preserve as a country lane with pedestrian pathway. This road life is currently <10 years.
  - Old Seward Hwy Pathway, DeArmoun to Rabbit Creek Road
  - ADA Ramps for existing Seward Hwy overpass at Rabbit Creek Elementary School – delete
  - Elmore Road Path, DeArmoun to Rabbit Creek Road – Possibly add in a road extension of Elmore with this pathway. Comment about HDP and special study area designation. Previous work shows this would be a \$90 mil extension, not work at current rabbit creek intersection, and cost now substantially more. Lots of discussion of the need for a north-south connection, added to this item.
  - Pathway along Abbott/Hillside Drive from Birch to Hillside to DeArmoun – Advance to Near Term.
  - Coastal Trail south extension Jodhpur Street to Potter Marsh.
  - Hillside access - east to west raised as a concern. Fire Connectivity of emergency routes.
  - Golden View Romania Road to Potter Valley.
  - Dearmon Rd Phase II discussed and added to list of projects.
  - **Vote: Yes=12, No =0, Abstain=1 – List passes.**
- Overview and Recommendations from RCCC listed in 4-page handout with review by Nancy Pease:
  - Climate Action Plan
  - Recommendations that RCCC should follow incorporation of Greenhouse Gasses (GHG) reductions:
    1. Adopt method to estimate GHG.
    2. Adopt a multi-pronged climate change goal and imperative similar to Boulder, CO methods.
    3. Peak hour congestion should not be the most prominent measured objective.
    4. Adopt a policy on energy efficiency and energy consumption.
    5. Incorporate up-to-date data in the models especially for population.
    6. The goals & objectives need to be substantially strengthened to ensure we build the city wanted by 2040.
    7. Revise the project scoring criteria to promote alternative travel modes and connectivity. Transit & rail.
  - Deadline for comments extended to March 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Vote Yes=14, No=0, Abstain=0 - List passes.**
- Proposed MTP 2040 Areawide Projects Outside RCCC area.
  - Scooter Ave Underpass & interchange at Seward Hwy - Delete
  - Local roads from 131<sup>st</sup> Scooter Ave underpass – Delete
  - MLK Drive extension westward down to Piper Street - Delete
  - Tudor Road Access Mgt Seward Hwy to Patterson convert to thruway with limited local access – Advance to H2H
  - Slush fund for short term planning lists over a dozen possible studies –
- **Upper DeArmoun Canyon Road – Dianne Holmes** – Developer asking for many variances. Want to lessen 100' right-of-way. Drainage issues. 27 driveways onto Canyon Road, an improved collector road. Developer is proposing to provide access setbacks from the creek, a wildlife corridor, to give land from some obscure Fairky Circle, that is listed on platt but not MOA maps, over to Section 36. In return they want a variance that provides to not want to include any other pedestrian access or tails on other parts of the homestead or along Canyon Road. Also, they do not want to be responsible for any other improvements to Canyon Road.
  - **Motion Jerry George & 2<sup>nd</sup> xxx** - To support Glen Alps Road Service Area Resolution, as summarized in their letter. No objections. Friendly amendment to motion to support Hillside District Plan (HDP) and Section 36 Plan for this area. Also accept the developers offer to donation of land on the south side of Rabbit Creek, but not with the condition that they be excused from building any trails. **Vote Yes=13 Opposed=1 Abstain=0 - Motion passes.**
  - Dianne listed variances they are requesting and no trails.
  - Friendly amendment to motion to support HDP
- **Solarize Anchorage** – Joel Cladouhos - Progress on selecting single contractor out of 5 contractors that submitted.
- **HALO - Motion Mike Kenny & 2<sup>nd</sup> Nancy Pease** – To donate \$25, raised to \$50 to HALO for candidate forum. **Vote Yes=12 Opposed=0 Abstain=0 - Motion passes.**

## **RCCC Organizational Reports -**

**Next Meeting** – Will be at Rabbit Creek Rifle Range on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.