

# **Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, July 9, 2020**

## **DS DRAFT**

Location: Picnic Tables at Moen Park with some attending via Internet Zoom

Board Roll Call - Present: Ann Rappoport (Co-Chair), David Sterling (Secretary), Keith Guyer, Judy Michael, Dianne Holmes, Jess Grunblatt, Mike Kenny, Joel Cladouhos, Paul Gionet (Treasurer)

Absent: Bert Lewis, Ky Holland,

Board Member Co-Chair – Ann Rappoport - Opened the meeting at 7:03 pm. 8 board members and over 13 members. Ann introduced those attending via Internet Zoom and those in attendance at Moen Park. Declared a General Meeting.

- **Agenda** – **Motion Judy Michael & 2<sup>nd</sup> Keith Guyer** July Agenda Approved as written.
- **Minutes** – June Minutes – Approved as written with minor revision.
- Attendance - Total with ±25 RCCC members in attendance at Moen Park and on internet via Zoom.

### **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) – (907)-770-6875 – At Moen Park – Mayor broke ground today at the new MOA Transfer Station location on 55<sup>th</sup> Avenue. June 23<sup>rd</sup> Assembly Meeting resulted in Cares Act Funding as follows: approved \$10 mil to child care + \$5 mil to small business in \$10k grants + \$3 mil to Firewise and Trail Maintenance & Building for O'Malley Gully Trail and trail from Glen Alps down to Hillside Drive. Most of the \$3 mil money will go to clearing dead trees killed by Spruce Bark Beetles and other things. Also looking to purchase 4 buildings for homeless shelters and recovery center issues. Recovery centers are much less offensive than something like what goes on at 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue which is so over capacity that it cannot function well. Homeless shelters don't have to be like 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and the MOA wants to try and change that situation. Assembly deals with some quasi-judicial issues in regards to Liquor & Marijuana licensing that have different rules of engagement regarding different people involved. Changing the Assembly rules of engagement that allows the petitioner 10 minutes at the end to discuss issues brought up during the hearing, but the other side is not given any time. The Assembly is working on changing that so the other side is also allowed time to respond. For platting Board issues, the petitioner is allowed 10 minutes, but the other side is not allowed time to respond. John will work towards expanding for both sides to be allowed time at the end to discuss issues brought up during the meeting. Should bring some fairness to the back and forth of future issues. Dianne Holmes brought up that sometimes staff brings up wrong information after public input and how can that be dealt with since Assembly members are limited in their discussions with petitioners. There is an appeal method, but that is lengthy.
- **State Representatives** – Jenifer Johnston - not present tonight.
- Senator Cathy Giessel – Loves coming to Moen Park as she and Mike Hawker were the ones who obtained funding for the Park many moons ago. Legislature dealt with small business grants that came from federal government so those are now being distributed, slowly thru Credit Union One and other financial institutions. That's about it.
- **Candidates for Offices -**
- **Carl Johnson** - Democratic Candidate for State Senate for this district. Lives up the hill in Mountainside Area. Described his situation and pleased to introduce himself.
- **Adam Lees** – Candidate for State House - Former Chair Person at RCCC for 2 years. Described his situation. Call any time cell phone 907- 885-4795.
- **Local Landmark Register Ordinance** - Monty Rogers - Chair of MOA Historic Commission for about 1½ years speaking online. Taylor Mathane at Moen Park. Draft of the Local Landmark Register Ordinance up for Public Review and Comment – Handed out a fact sheet with details of the Ordinance. Accepting public comments thru August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 online or in writing. Website listed with all the information. Creating Local Landmark Register. Ability for anyone to nominate cultural resources to be on the Landmark Register. People can nominate structures, older buildings, unique geographic items, basically anything that has played a prominent role in establishing Anchorage. A way for folks to nominate historical things throughout MOA. Items requires landowner permission. Nomination process for commission review and forwarding to MOA Assembly for approval. Potter Marsh brought up as a quasi-natural historical item, since it was the result of the Alaska Railroad Tracks being constructed where they are located. For an item to be nominated does not give it any protection, just recognizes it for historical importance. Moen Trail brought up as an item. 51% of property owners have to agree to nominate. There is a State Register and National Register. The National Register may offer public money so there are preservations. Nominating trees are possible. There are nomination fees, ranging as follows: Single landmark =\$100; Group of items 2 to 15 items = \$150 in total; Group of items 16 to 30 items = \$200 in total; Group of items 31 and over = \$300 in total. State Register is not active, only one Juneau item on that Register. National Register takes significant effort to place something on that.
- **ASD School Board Member** – Not present tonight
- **ANC Fire Department Station 10** – Not present tonight.
- **Treasurers Report** – Annual report by Paul Gionet available for review. Savings at \$316.33 + Checking at \$1,312.98 = \$1,629.31. Recently sent \$150 to HydroAxe for chipping.

### **New Business**

- **Rabbit Creek BLM Gateway Lot-Old Seward & Rabbit Creek Road** - Organize volunteers to remove invasive plants.
- **Rabbit Creek Trail** – Dianne Holmes – Normally get McLaughlin Youth to help with trail maintenance. Not available this summer. Scout group plans to help soon. Looking for more volunteers to do maintenance. Also help with tool sharpening and old grass rakes.

- **Bear Resistant Trash Cans** – Bruce Gough – President of Southpark Home Owners Association – Wants to setup for Southpark to use Bear Resistance Trash Cans at their 131 homes. Recent survey shows 17 out of 131 then 28 out of 131 homes over past two weeks are using these cans. Wants to not habituate bears by residents using wrong type garbage cans. They are just starting to make a policy for their subdivision to use bear resistant cans. Currently, bear resistant are sized at 96 gal can, and they want to get 64 gal bear resistant cans. Just recently 64 gal bear resistant cans became available, but not yet set up with tariff amount yet. In 2018, 41 bears had to be euthanized by ADF&G. Most were probably habituated due to garbage problems. Ann agreed that RCCC will help with this program.

## **Old Business –**

- **LUT Follow Up Items/Updates-** Met last week. Nancy Pease - Draft letter written for speed limit on Old Seward Hwy East of Potters Marsh from Rabbit Creek Road to Potter Valley Road. Substandard condition. Receives a lot of foot traffic in the lanes because there are no shoulders to walk on. Posted at 45 mph. RCCC concerned about people in the traffic lanes. Want to send letter to DOT to consider changing the posted speed limit to a safe speed, maybe 30 mph, subject to a study. Could save lives. Nancy read through and commented about the draft letter.
  - **Motion Dianne Holmes & 2<sup>nd</sup> Nancy Pease** - Send LUT letter to Alaska DOT asking to reduce the speed limit on Old Seward Hwy East of Potters Marsh from Rabbit Creek Road to Potter Valley Road for safety and recreational opportunities that people are taking along there. Post signage and begin studies during this summer when there is the highest use. Dianne Holmes advised this road has been on RCCC top of the CIP List for the past 20 years. Cathy Giessel advised that she is aware and has seen documentation that the Old Seward Hwy in this area is on a DOT&PF list for major upgrading. Question about putting speed bumps in the road. Nancy reminded us that ADF&G has made proposition and conceptual plans to install upgrades to Potter Marsh by the mailboxes on the south side with trails and interpretational information that will increase the recreational use of the road. No pedestrian facilities requests are included in the letter, because the idea is to do what can be done with very little money right away in the near term. Trails or sidewalk pedestrian upgrades would cost millions of dollars and take years and years. Not the intent right now. Vote by hand count = 13 yes; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions. Letter will be finalized and forwarded.
- **Rumble Strip Installation along New Seward Hwy - Jess Grunblatt** – Concern is to not install rumble strips along New Seward Hwy currently being reconditioned, adjacent to existing communities particularly in the Potter Valley area. Not install rumble strips from the turnoff to the Turnagain Trail thru the Potter Valley Road. DOT rejected this motion request from RCCC due to safety issues. DOT did conduct a turning study that Jess considered as inadequate and substandard. Jess recently made another request that was again rejected by DOT due to safety concerns. Bottom line - the rumble strips will be installed along New Seward Hwy.
- **Windy Corner Road Renovation Proposition** – RCCC recently sent letter went to Chugach State Parks with concerns about the project. Plan to send the same letter and comments to DOT&PF. Nancy Pease advises a Public Open House on July 30<sup>th</sup> 5 to 7 pm, participation online and details to be posted by July 14<sup>th</sup> at website: [www.windycorner.info](http://www.windycorner.info) Written comments being accepted until August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. DOWL Engineers is involved with the Open House. Nancy offered to be RCCC Representative at the hearing.
- **Solarize Anchorage** – Joel Cladouhos – Ann had 5 more panels installed today. Solarize is installing at about 5 houses per week right now. Can sign up until end of August.
- **Resilience Committee** – No activities. Assessment underway by Fire Department. Wood lot is now open at 100<sup>th</sup> and C Street snow storage area. Wood Lot coupons available by contacting Ky Holland.
- **Moen Park Challenge Grant** - Addition for Adult exercise equipment, need participation with matching value of \$10,000 in money or volunteer items/efforts. Signage and small Library also part of the deal.
- **HALO** – No report.
- **FCC** – No Report.

**Next Meeting** – Location to be determined for August 13<sup>th</sup>, probably at Moen Park again.

## **Action Items –**

- Landmark Register
- Letter to DOT to reduce speed limit along Old Seward Hwy East or Potter Marsh.
- Nancy Pease to testify at Windy Corner Project for RCCC and forward letter to DOT.
- BLM Gateway Lot weeding.
- Rabbit Creek Trail weeding and sharpen tools.
- Guyer to check on Hydro Axe
- Selection for someone to speak at Canyon Platting meeting to be by LUT Committee.

**Meeting adjournment – Motion to Adjourn Keith Guyer & 2<sup>nd</sup> Adam Lees** - Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.