

Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, May 8, 2025
DS DRAFT

Location: Goldenview Middle School and Internet Zoom Meeting

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

Absent: Tim Alderson

Board Member Vice-Chair Mike Malvick - Opened the meeting formally starting at 7:05 pm.

Requested everyone to sign-in on Zoom. Determined 10 board members and over 26 attendees total on Zoom and in person. Declared a Quorum and General Meeting. Mike Malvick 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 Athabascan. New format on agenda. Intended for AI minutes in future.

- **May Agenda** – Tim Alderson asked about additions. Approved.
 - **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Grace Johnston** – Agenda approved by voice vote.
- **April Minutes** – **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Amanda Dougherty** – Dianne Holmes requested to add paragraph clarifying Town Square solar access issue. Approved by voice vote.
- **Treasurer Report** – February amounts: Savings + Checking = \$1,956.15 available; no change.
- **Federation of Community Councils** – Executive Director - Arianna Bellizzi - 37 Community Councils in Anchorage. In April they requested that Community Councils nominate special people to recognize. RCCC Board recognized Dianne Holmes as our Member of the Year. Ariana read the special recognition. Dianne briefly described her history at RCCC. RCCC presented her with flowers.
- **Opening Comments and Persons Not on the Agenda** –
 - Joel Cladouhos - Neighbor on 145th Ave, David Rearick, regarding renewable energy. Hoping to expand into an Energy Committee. Concerned about various issues. Natural gas, Net Metering. Seante Bill 150.
 - Dianne Holmes – Small pot of money left over from a Rabbit Creek Green Belt allowance. Propose that those funds be used for Moen Park installing exercise equipment in bedrock, that has not yet been installed. No motion required until the MOA defines if they have enough to install. Expected costs are \$5k for survey and up to \$20k for installation.

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 – Muni caregiver to children ratios being adjusted, to match state. Criminal penalty for starting fires. Public Safety Plan. APD down by 67 officers. First full police school in years. Legal prosecutor staff is fully staffed. Mobile crisis team responded to 4,668 calls in 2024. Town Square approved for 6-cameras. Wildfire has 40 agencies involved in meetings. 1st quarter budget \$70k for wildfires.
- **Representative Ky Holland** – Cell (907) 727-2735 – From Juneau. Education funding. Operating budget. Governor continues expecting his requests to be met. Fuel breaks in Prospects Heights area. Need 57 votes to override any vetoes.
- **Senator Cathy Giessel** – cell (907) 242-5450 – sen.cathy.giessel@akleg.gov – Paige Brown for Cathy Giessel. Passed budget yesterday. \$600 mil deficit. 2nd version of BSA bill passed last week. Chugach Park Access easement for easement thru park, Senate Bill 47.
- **Anchorage School District** – Carl Jacobson – Cell (907) – email = jacobson_carl@asdk-12.org – Discussed school issues. Sports. Nurses. Still a deficit if BSA passes. Waiting for Legislature.
- **AFD** – Chief was on, but had to go on a call.

New Business and Time Critical Action Items

- **Wildlife Resilience Study Presentation** – Clover Stricklin – Ann Rappoport filling in. MOA has asked people to respond to a survey that is online, regarding Wildland Fires. Link in chat. Survey is council specific. Summarized what to expect in the 30-minute survey.
- **Comment on DOT Road Classification** – Nancy Pease – DOT every 10 years reviews road uses for design and maintenance needs. Deadline July 1st. One possibility is Old Seward Hwy on east side of Potter Marsh. More at the June meeting.
- **AMATS Request for Short Term Safety Improvements for Safer Seward Hwy MP 112-118** – Nancy Pease – State proposing a 2-lane divided highway in this area. \$270 mil. MOA wants to use money for other projects. Northern part of Safer Seward Highway, MP 112-118, was taken out of longer SSH project. Suggest RCCC write letter to MOA Assembly and AMATS to have an Amendment for some special targeted needed upgrades, like lighted signage re road conditions.
 - **Motion Nancy Pease & 2nd Matt Blakeslee** – Nancy read the letter out loud. To pass the Amendment within the next 3 months. Posted on FCC website.
 - Results: Yes = 15, No = 0, Abstain = 0 - Motion passes.
- **Old Seward Hwy repaving/safety/pilot study Request** – Nancy Pease – This item has been on the want list for 20 years. Opportunity for DOT to repave, no major re-design. Actual work tentatively moved to happen in 2026. Smooth fast pavement, vehicle speeds go way up. Potter Marsh Watershed Park purchased by Great Land Trust, transferred to Muni Parks; Master Plan to start this Fall. Request repaving project to include traffic calming design elements. Send a letter to MOA and DOT. Letter to state: 1) Form working group with MOA and DOT. 2) Coordinate a site visit. 3) Consider lane conversion south of Tideview Drive for non-motorized. 4) Designation of roadway as a green asset. Purpose is to reduce vehicle speeds, include safety. Discussion about trail by VRae Studio. This road is used as a bypass when New Seward Hwy has accident blocking passage on west side of Potter Marsh.
 - **Motion Nancy Pease & 2nd Ann Rappoport** –To send the letter looking into options
 - Results: Yes = 16, No = 1, Abstain = 2 - Motion passes.
- **2025 AMATS Participation Plan and 2026-27 Work Program** – Nancy Pease – Combined State and Local Policy entities. Draft Public Participation Plan and Work Program. On FCC website. Bureaucratic. RCCC always sends in comments. Concern that comments don't make any difference in decision. 1) What percent of public comments are considered? 2) What percent of public comments resulted in a changed decision? 3) Are the categories of public comments enthused or negative about something?
 - **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Nancy Pease** –To send the letter about the 3-points above.
 - Results: Yes = 15, No = 0, Abstain = 0 - Motion passes.
 - **Work Program** – 1) Emphasize safety, land use, cost efficiencies. 2) Coordinating Land Use and Transportation on regional development patterns. Redevelopment. 3) Promote smart Land Use. Refer to comprehensive plan. Sub-Areas. Support Climate Action Plan.
 - **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Matt Blakeslee** –To send AMATS letter about the points above.
 - Results: Yes = 17, No = 0, Abstain = 0 - Motion passes.
- **Variance Request 2025-0053 – Encroachment into the front setback 3700 Dora Ave** Ann Rappoport – Variance request to build a 40'x40' garage to house vehicles scattered around lot, extending 25' into front setback. High groundwater conditions on lot. Letter signed by neighbors, no objections. Land Use Committee voted no objections. 3 other lots in area have similar variances.
 - **Motion Judy Michael & 2nd Ann Rappoport** –To send the letter of no objection detailed above.
 - Results: Yes = 14, No = 0, Abstain = 1 - Motion passes.

- **MOA CIP Survey due May 20th** – Ann Rappoport – Annual survey. Survey link in chat and on FCC website. 21-projects. MOA puts them in alphabetical order. Some in list are not in our area.

Old Business and Ongoing Initiatives

- **Update on FCC Website Redesign** – Ann Rappoport – Described updates.
- **Motion Ann Rappoport & 2nd Judy Michael** –Extend meeting by 10-minutes. No objections.

Committee Reports

- **Land Use Committee** – Meets monthly. Most covered in New Business.
- **Education Committee** – Rachel Blakeslee provided update – Meeting 4th Thursday of every month.
- **Resilience Committee** – Meets 4th Monday of each month.
- **FCC** – Redoing bylaws. Website now live. Easy to get to meeting information. More security.
- **HALO** – No report.
- **HLB** – 120-acre site by Chugach State Park is no longer on market.
- **Rabbit Creek Welcome Sign** – Logs curing at James Michael property. DOT Right of Way Variance will need to be requested once confirmed that RCCC selected site is in ROW and not on BLM/Muni property.
- **Schools on Trails** – No report.
- **Social Media** – No report.
- **Next Meeting** – June 12, 2025. Zoom meeting and Storck Park in person, weather permitting.
- **Mike Malvick provided community announcements.**
- **Meeting adjournment** – Motion Cindy Wray & 2nd Ann Rappoport - Adjourned at 9:13 pm.