

Minutes
South Fork Community Council
December 3, 2020

1. Call to Order at 7:03pm by **Karl von Lührte** on Zoom. A total of 14 participants including guest speakers Carmela Warfield from Hillside Community Council, Denny Hostetter from JBER, Sean Murphy and Dan Kendall from Eaglexit, and Mike Robbins, Mayoral Candidate.
2. Brief introductions were made.
3. Agenda approved unanimously
4. October and November minutes approved unanimously
5. Guest Speakers:
 - a. **State Legislature, Rep. Kelly Merrick** and **Senator Reinbold** not in attendance
 - b. **Crystal Kennedy, Assembly** is having a special meeting to reallocate CARES Act funds. Most of the funds have been spent but \$12 million was freed up by the state covering FEMA. Rental and mortgage relief fund will receive some of these funds (7 million roughly) and the rest will go into business grants for small businesses. Another 1 million will be put into a grant for Wal Mart, Fred Meyer gift cards being distributed through the Food Banks. AWWU has applied for a rate increase with the Assembly. This also has to go before the Regulatory Commission of Alaska. She proposed an exemption on some taxes for those businesses that have been shut down throughout the year; the vote failed. Some of the CARES money instead will go to help offset those costs for businesses.
 - c. **School Board: Deena Mitchell** reports that the District has put together a preliminary plan that will take some smaller steps, bringing in small groups and looking at a start date of January 19, 2021. Plans are available on the ASD website. December 15th is the next School Board meeting. New Strategic Planning District wide goals are being developed based on community input. Families can still get free student meals through December 31. School construction for Eagle River Elementary and Gruening is on schedule.
 - d. **Cliff Cook, Community Patrol** not in attendance.
 - e. **Dan Kendall, Eaglexit:** Former Assembly Member for Anchorage with a lifelong history in Alaska. CER is different from Anchorage; proposing to remove CER from the Municipality of Anchorage. Weekly meetings of active citizens and economic studies are ongoing. Phase Two is underway. Cost to finish project is estimated at \$300,000. Raised \$90,000 so far. It ends with a vote of CER residents. Eagexit.com is where you can go to make contributions and learn more.
 - f. **Mike Robbins, Mayoral candidate:** Lifelong Alaskan, small businessman, focus on crime, economics, homelessness, and education. Robbinsformayor.com. Government roadblocks to jobs and small businesses are a problem. Believes it should be up to Eagle River residents to determine if they leave Anchorage or not. He believes the tone of the employees is set by the boss. Ron Thompson is on his

team and he has a lot of experience with the MOA and wants to help improve the process and identify the problems. He believes our city needs to build things to help make a vibrant and economically sound city. Toys for Tots are way behind in donations this year; he would encourage people to donate if they are able.

6. Old Business –

- a. **MOA Emergency Order:** Resolution [attached separately] discussion urging the mayor to rescind EO-16. The health care industry is currently working hard to cover themselves to avoid lawsuits, Mayor on how to move forward. The motion passed 7 to 0.
- b. **Title 21 B3 Revision:** MOA wants to rezone B3 to allow homeless shelters. May have a negative impact on the businesses working hard to cover their bases, and they are in close communication with the Acting Mayor in those areas.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Road Board: **Joe Wright** reports that plowing is 75% done in one day. Money is still being discussed for fixing the bridge for Fire Dept access.
- b. Parks and Recreation: **Joshua Ream** still needs an alternate. McDonald Center Zamboni is up and running. Fire Lake discussions are ongoing. Looking into additional outdoor rink options. Spirit Park Court is being petitioned as a potential new site for an ice rink by Hiland residents. Beach Lake no rentals currently but interested parties for the summer are reserving it. Beetle kill clearing continues. FEMA quake repairs in Town Square are completed as are Beach Lake repairs. FEMA repairs were not completed at MacDonald Center and it is unclear if they ever applied.
- c. Treasurer. **Randy Beilfuss** not in attendance, shared via phone call that SoFCC has \$201.97 in the account.

8. New Business: Elections of officers. President: Joe Wright; Vice President: Karl von Lührte; Secretary: Janelle Wight; Treasurer: Randy Beilfuss. Approved 7 to 0.

9. Good of the Order:

- a. None

10. The meeting was extended by unanimous vote for 15 minutes and adjourned at 9:09pm; next meeting is January 7, 2020 and will be on Zoom – plan on that unless we hear otherwise.

Janelle Wight, Secretary