

Minutes
South Fork Community Council
December 2, 2021

1. Call to Order at 7:05pm by **Joe Wright**, President, on Zoom. A total of 12 participants with several guest speakers (see below).
2. Agenda approved without additions or amendments.
3. Minutes approved without changes.
4. Message and announcement from **Joe Wright**, President: He is planning to run for an Assembly seat in April, provided that Crystal Kennedy decides that she is not going to run. Feels that we are at a point where we need strong grassroots representation.
5. Guest Speakers:
 - a. **State Legislature, Rep. Kelly Merrick** reported on Juneau work. Heard our concerns about the Glenn Highway on ramp. Eagle River High vs. Chugiak High hockey game is a contest for who can collect more teddy bears on Saturday collecting toys for underprivileged children. Encourages us to contact her office at any time with questions.
 - b. **Crystal Kennedy, Assembly** reports that the Assembly passed the budget but the mayor has vetoed it. There will be a special meeting, likely, to override the veto. Redistricting is starting and she is on the committee. There will be several town hall meetings in early 2022. Encourages citizens to provide input and submit any ideas. Assembly will grow to 12 people. Assembly is spending more money than is coming in; this negative balance is not good or sustainable and may also impact our city credit rating. Chugiak-Eagle River Tree Lighting is going on tomorrow night (December 3) along with the Merry Merchant Munch (local businesses have decorations and food to share) starting at 5:30pm. Elementary school choirs will be singing.
 - c. **Joy Boston, JBER Community Rep** reports that the Air Force recruiting service has three 3-week sessions, a free program in Florida for 16-23 with 15 hours of flight instruction which includes airfare. Application deadline of December 10th. Base Historian, Chris, has created a JBER history app that chronicles the history of the area and the development of the base. Tricare is changing their pharmacy services on December 15th – WalMart will no longer be part of the network and CVS is joining the network (inside Target in Alaska). Gate hours are going to be a little different for the holidays. Military units aren't deploying as much currently and so there is more training and there will be a little more noise as they train.
 - d. **Cliff Cook, Community Patrol**: 17 hours and 90 miles of patrol. Volunteered with the Thanksgiving Blessing in South Anchorage. Also volunteering with the Polar Plunge at Goose Lake. Encourages people to get a team together and raise money for the Special Olympics. An APD Officer Liaison has been assigned to the Community Patrol. Check your garage doors, stay vigilant. With the weather

we've been having, plan ahead when you drive and recreate. Hypothermia can come on quickly.

- e. **Pat Higgins, School Board** reports that they are committed to keeping the schools going but COVID numbers are high. Working to find solutions to students and staff being impacted by positive tests or close contacts. He is not happy with the Assembly and School Board meetings being on the same night. A joint meeting with the Assembly is coming up and he will be bringing this topic up for discussion.
6. Old Business –
 - a. **Muktuk Marston Trail/Hunter Trail: Erik Fredeen** is part of a group of citizens who are concerned with the proposed development of this trail. Erik would like to introduce a resolution to formally establish a Trail Committee to work directly with the State Park with Suzanne Marcy as the Representative. Looking to develop a good working relationship with State Parks. Currently 7 residents wanting to volunteer as part of this subcommittee. Motion passes 7-0.
 - b. **Officer Elections:** Two openings on the Parks & Rec Board and an opening on the CBERRSA (alternate) Board. Motion to keep current slate of officers except for Randy as Treasurer who is retiring and moving passed unanimously 7-0.
 7. New Business –
 - a. **Road Renaming:** Motion in favor of the road rename passed 7-0.
 8. Committee Reports
 - a. Road Board: **Joe Wright** reports that the Road Board is seeing a 40% increase cost to current contract mostly as a result of the storm that came through and knocked down a lot of trees, cost roughly \$400,000. Road Board is looking at their budget and interested in hearing about what projects the community wants to prioritize. Trying to maintain the milrate but it may need to be adjusted with the inflation rates. Artillery Road continues to be a priority as well as the Eagle River Loop onramp to the highway.
 - b. Parks and Recreation: **No representative on this Board.**
 - c. Treasurer: **Randy Beilfuss** not in attendance.
 9. Good of the Order:
 - a. Donna Mears is with NE Community Council and attended our meeting to say hello and see what our challenges are.
 - b. Joy Boston (JBER): next summer July 30 & 31 will be the Arctic Thunder Open House and they are looking for community sponsors.
 - c. Cliff: Pat Higgins is our School Board Rep and it might be good to invite him to our meetings.
 - d. Janelle: Link for the Zoom meetings on our SFCC Website is broken.
 10. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.

Janelle Wight, Secretary