

**EAGLE RIVER/CHUGIAK PARKS AND RECREATION  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Regular Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2023

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Eagle River/Chugiak Parks and Recreation (ERCP&R) Board of Supervisors convened on May 8th, 2023, at 6:303 p.m. Chair Camilla Hussein-Scott called the meeting to order.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Barbara Trost, Birchwood Community Council  
Will Taygan, Chugiak Community Council  
Mark Littlefield, Eagle River Valley Community Council Alternate  
~~Stephan Romanilli, South Fork Community Council~~  
~~Jasmine Carter, Mayor's Appointee~~  
Mike Braniff – Parks and Recreation Director  
~~Tanya Lieberman – Parks and Recreation Deputy Director~~  
Jeff Urbanus- Parks and Recreation Landscape Architect

**III. MINUTES**

April 10, 2023, minutes were approved unanimously once a few small corrections were made.

**IV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mike Braniff- Informed everyone on the positions hired. Gardner 1, Gardner 2, and Caretaker 1. Talked about not meeting in the month of June, but would let others know if there needs to be a July meeting.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Comments were made by members of the Birchwood Community council against the West Beach Lake Multiuse Trail project. Comments were also made from residents of Eagle River of support for the project.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Resolution of support for trail improvements for the chicane gate crossing project (West Beach Lake Multiuse trail):** Jeff Urbanus-informed everyone that there was enough money for the project. He also informed the board that he would be going to their individual community council meetings to discussion the plan. Kelly Willet replaced Will Taygan for the vote on the project. Resolution passed. It was pointed out that it was just the approval of the plan which is part of the master plan. Barbara Trost announced that she would be voting against it.

- B. Resolution of support for the Chugiak Pool renovations required to continue operations:** Pool Resolution was passed with full approval of the board. Renovations to the pool was increased from \$3 million to \$4 million. Any unspent funds is to be returned to the general fund.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Kevin Sommer, General Manager of McDonald Center, power point presentation on programing and operations:**

- Kevin moved up from Colorado about 16 months ago.
- He has transferred their scheduling over to Athletes Track Program from pin and clipboard. He informed the board that the McDonald Center would be closed on weekends from now until Labor Day.
- On June 13<sup>th</sup> 2023the ice would be put back in. They will have various summer camp in throughout the summer.
- He stated the Mission Statement: Quality of life is a recreational sport.
- Programs currently being held at the center were: youth hockey, adult hockey figure skating, public skating, and toddler time. Toddler time has been a big hit.
- He has been asked about hosting speed skating events at the McDonald Center. Artic Winter Games will be a short form speed skating event over Spring Break 2024.
- Stated that the Pickle ball tournament that was held after the ice was removed was a success and made \$2,700.00.
- Coach Mac Tournament raised funds for scholarships to both high schools.
- They had their Scott Cares event which was a big success and raised a lot of money for cancer research. All the money goes to the Scott Hamilton Foundation. Scott Hamilton will be visiting Eagle River Alaska later this fall.
- Kevin and staff will be hosting the overnight event of Grad Blast.
- He was given an ARPA grant of \$200,000 which has been spent on the following: a scissor lift, skate sharpener, electric edger, paint cart, upgrading technology, purchased new computers and telephones. In addition, upgraded the software as well as had some professional development.
- He is currently looking to hire an assistant manager; he was having a hard time finding people to fill his current vacancies.
  
- The facility needs the following: replace the lights with LEDS, repair the bathroom stalls on the rink side, install speed limit signs, install overnight camping signs in the parking lot, replace controls in the facility which would cost about \$20,000.

**VIII. ACTION ITEM**

- West Beach Lake Multiuse Trail project is allowed to progress in its process. After being given approval of the board to move ahead.
- Chugiak Pool project is allowed to continue in its process of repair and maintenance.

**IX. DISCUSSION**

- Future meeting to be held will be determined month to month until fall. Agreed to get the board back together in July.

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

---

Camilla Hussein-Scott, Chair

Date

---

Tanya Lieberman, Deputy Director

Date