

**EAGLE RIVER/CHUGIAK PARKS AND RECREATION  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
Regular Meeting Minutes – August 12, 2024

**I. Call to Order**

The Eagle River/Chugiak Parks and Recreation (ERCP&R) Board of Supervisors convened on August 12, 2024, at 6:39 p.m. Chair Stephen Romanelli called the meeting to order.

**II. Roll Call**

Stephen Romanelli, South Fork Eagle River Community Council  
Barbara Trost, Birchwood Community Council  
Kelly Willet, Chugiak Community Council  
Pauline Tise, Eagle River Community Council  
Ruth Armstrong, Eagle River Valley Community Council

Staff Present:

Michael Braniff  
Kellie Jorgensen  
Jeffrey Urbanus

FLAMI Representative:

Chris Canterbury  
Yoshiko Flannigan

**III. Minutes**

May 20<sup>th</sup> 2024 Meeting Minutes were asked to be reviewed and approved. Barbara Trost requested that the meeting minutes be amended to include how many community members were in attendance for soccer, a number specifically. Kellie Jorgensen suggested we look at the number of attendees per the sign in sheet and annotate that a majority were present for soccer. The motion to amend the minutes was made and approved.

**IV. Public Comments**

Dave Tise (? name was not clear in recording) representative of the Eagle River Hockey League (ERHL) spoke. There is concern from the organization that ice is being allocated outside of Eagle River at the MAC center. The organization was also wondering when they would hear back on the ice allocation. Chris Canterbury spoke on behalf of FLAMI. Chris stated he plays for ERHL and understands concerns about ice time given. He stated there is an ice allocation policy per the operating contract for the McDonald Center. He outlined that the ice allocation policy directs the priority of ice time allocated and to what organizations. He stated there are concerns about Anchorage School District (ASD)

requesting the amount of ice time and that there are requests for games being played that do not include Eagle River/Chugiak at the McDonald Center. This is creating an undo amount of pressure for ice availability. Prices are too high for the Sullivan for example and the MAC provides ice for a lower price being a non-profit therefore there is more pressure to obtain ice at the MAC. Profit organizations do not necessarily recognize the issue at hand. Chris stated he called and spoke with Travis Morgan who is for the ASD Varsity Hockey Program and stated what is being requested is unreasonable and the MAC is trying to push back on the request. Chris also sat down with the Mustang Hockey Association to discuss ice allocation. Dave mentioned there is nowhere else for us to go unless they open more ice in town. ERHL are older adults and are being asked to play later than school kids. Chris mentioned that kids cannot reasonably play at 10PM so the adults need to understand availability. Dave addressed concerns about being pushed out by non- Eagle River users of ice and the concern that there is a new youth hockey organization coming in as well increasing difficulty to obtain ice. It was asked why can't we work with ASD on ice times that work with the entire community. Kelly Willet asked for meeting minutes with ASD meeting with MAC center and Chris stated there were no meeting minutes. Kelly asked if there was in writing what was requested. Chris stated ASD received about a third of what they requested for ice. It was mentioned that we really should push back on ASD and go to the Assembly about and ask about what is going on with the Sullivan arena and their ability to provide ice time. Stephen Romanelli asked why isn't ASD using those arenas instead of the MAC? Chris mentioned a lot of it comes down to budget and what they want to spend for ice. Branden Bartlett spoke as president of ERHL. He said about moving to later ice times, early is better for kids yes but, we seen a drop in enrollment due to ice times and especially due to later games. This is 8<sup>th</sup> season they have played and it is more difficult to plan life around late games.

## **V. Capital Improvement Projects Submissions for 2025 and Beyond**

Kellie Jorgensen stated she had requested from user groups, community groups, and anyone who holds permits with the Department of Parks and Recreation for ideas for Capital Improvement Projects. There have been Community Surveys disseminated and completed with minimal participation for the past two years. We wanted to take the opportunity to see dreams, visions, needs of the community. We did receive two projects for consideration by the board and wish to give the opportunity to present. One group is here to speak for their project this evening. There will be scoring criteria to help prioritize projects going forward and intention to set a due date of scoring by Board Members within two weeks if reasonable. Pauline Tise requested if scoring from community council surveys were considered as well. Kellie stated projects for scoring would include the two projects from groups we received, community survey submissions, and Parks and Recreation staff presented projects. The requested set due date should allow time to take back to community councils for consideration and inputs. Kellie stated the Board will be e-mailed all submissions and scoring matrix and will be asked to share with community councils for input as well.

Dan Traxinger presented on behalf of Arctic Heat with Carl Waters for a proposal to install turf infields at Loretta French Sports Complex. A PowerPoint presentation was provided along with numerous letters of support and a quote/proposal for field 1 and 2 to install turf infield. Dan gave the history of the improvements that have since occurred at Loretta French Sports Complex in the development of the Softball/Baseball fields since 2018/2019 accomplished by Arctic Heat. In 2019 Dan and Carl started to refurbish the fields at Loretta French. He presented to the board in 2020, 2021, and 2022 about projects and requested for improvements. They started with a permit to refurbish field #1, then field #2. They removed 2-6 inches of soil on each field, brought in new soil, and brought in turfis to the field assisting in drainage. All this work was done with volunteers, the photos demonstrate that this is a community driven effort. In 2020 over 700 hours in volunteer time was put into the fields. In 2020-2021 refurbishing of fields 3 and 4 was completed. In this Private Public Partnership, we ask for a small amount of funds from Parks and Recreation as well as asking the community to provide donations and volunteer hours to complete work. Every spring, Arctic Heat cleans up the ballpark when snow melts down. Arctic Heat girls from all three programs participate in cleaning efforts that includes dog feces removal, snow removal, and general clean up to give girls a chance to have high school season. In 2019/2022 season, we hosted the Junior Olympics State Tournament. Dan stated he has been involved for 16 years and initially cut his teeth at Lions Park. Now Eagle River High School and Chugiak High School have home fields and it has changed the course of softball locally. We hold big youth events to include Tudor Bingo which was held in Anchorage 10-15 years. Because of the fields and community out here, we brought the tournament here this year. Alaska Futures tournament is hosted in collaboration with MLB for boys and girls. Softball numbers over last years was 10-15 years only 10 girls, now over 100 girls attend. The Homerun Derby and Birchwood Jamboree is also hosted during Bear Paw Festival contributing to the economy this year hosting 19 teams, 350 kids which has a lot of impact. We host a camp for Special Olympics as well, 4 years running. Adults organize and turn over to ladies to run the tournament. The Great Alaska Showcase brings up 10-15 coaches from colleges all over the nation recruiting, 15+ scholarship have been offered for the Alaska Youth Softball Community. The Protect The Game organization also comes up as well during Showcase and conducts free umpire training clinics for Active Duty Military/Retired creating new umpires to bring to programs. Since 2019 we have been approved for and installed Safety Netting, Scoreboards, and Batting Cages. We have a continued commitment to volunteerism in 2024 calculating about 1,000 hours of volunteering which is estimated to cost \$33.49 per hour equating to \$33,490. We invested \$12k for a Field Groomer to keep fields groomed and invested in batting cages as well as we groom fields for the church leagues hosting 7 teams and 200 adults. We have taken Loretta French from afterthought to the Premier Fields in the area. Our request of the Board is to turf fields 1-4, understanding it is a larger number cost wise but there is efficiency in scale; ship once and get done once. If the board determines only two fields to be done, we understand. We didn't request this before because we weren't ready, we needed to build and prove our commitment and need in the community. If the board chooses to approve, Arctic Heat will continue to invest time and commit to fields and purchase a sound system, upgrade dugouts, install heavy backstops, and outfit youth batting cages. If the Board approves the request, we will commit to going to other funding channels to commit funds to include upgrading the clubhouse existing. We also have an ability to

bid for ASA High School State tournament which will be fantastic to bring here due to the improvements we have completed. We would like to bring the Alaska Native Tournaments here as well. Stephen asked about help from ASD. Dan stated there has been no assistance and a coach from Arctic Heat stated that there is no help from ASD. Jeff Urbanus stated it's the same with soccer and hence there are booster clubs to support efforts. The Arctic Heat coach stated she grew up in Chugiak and historically all practices were in Anchorage and there was no support for softball. We only get dirt fields if we have designated fields for us to use. She coached at Eagle River High School and Chugiak High School. Pauline stated it is the same for girls' hockey. Dan stated that girls must fundraise for opportunities. Dan stated there are 20 letters of support- not just from the community but across Alaska and National Organizations. Turf offers a safer playing field, allows the ability to get on fields sooner and longer. Turf also allows for play in in climate weather. Turf also reduces maintenance put into fields, hundreds of hours into dirt fields- all you have to do is run conditioner on turf fields, add new pellets and that's it. Barbara Trost asked about pricing presented. Kellie stated the quote is for two infields, and another vendor is providing a quote with similar pricing. Barbara asked for a timeline of installation. Dan stated we have expertise in installation of fields at Oberg and Loretta Lee Jordan Field. We would like to do in one summer. If approved, we have folks in community that can advocate for the project and see if we can get assist with shipping costs. Barbara stated we are looking at roughly 2 million- Dan said yes.

Kellie said maintenance is about \$47k a season currently with dirt fields for duration of 21 weeks. Turf would eliminate costs to \$20k a season which would be a cost savings. Kelly Willet asked timeline for all upgrades for proposed 2025. Dan said he would spend the winter looking at sound systems. If we can get items and then get installed, we would just be looking at how to run electricity and power- there are wireless systems out there but currently we run out of a wooden shed on site.

Mike Braniff stated he heard it is better to do whole field instead of only infield and asked Dan about. Dan stated it doubles cost and that we are looking at how to get turf at lowest cost and impact. It does create more consistency in outfield, cuts down on overall maintenance as the whole field would have to be refurbished once a year and almost zero maintenance but doubles cost. The other consideration is that if you don't' take care of the turf and it wears out you need to patch. We already thought about this impact and we will still put down pitching mounds on top of turf and replace pitching mounds instead of turf (\$500 vs \$3k) and also put pads on Homeplate to not wear down turf. In Anchorage there are no turf fields for the ladies. Carl Waters stated having turf will allow girls more time to play stating that currently there are only 16 weeks for a season typically with dirt fields and many games were not available due to fields being not playable, having turf we could have more time for play. Families come to this park and feel safe, you don't see a lot of trash because the girls take ownership of park and pick up trash. Several softball players spoke about the benefits to having turf fields and ability to play longer, have more practices, and more games on safe fields. Several stated the significant impacts of rain and snow on fields and cancelling games and inability to play on dirt fields. They also stated softball provided the opportunity to learn discipline, to learn lifelong lessons, and be able to have fun with friends.

Kellie Jorgensen presented an additional submission through the Department of Fish and Game (DFG). There have been significant issues with bears getting into trash, in particular at Koehler Park and Peter's Creek. Corey Stantorf of DFG asked Parks and Recreation to make a concerted effort to have bear resistant receptacles in parks and he put forward they would assist funding up to \$5k if we try to fund 10 canisters. We are waiting for letter from DFG endorsing effort.

Kellie stated that those were the two submissions received per the inquiry sent out and thanked the group that participated for taking time to be involved in the process and presenting to the community and board for consideration.

Jeff Urbanus explained in further discussion and dissemination of a capital project plan sheet that there was developed previously a 5-year capital project plan by Jeff and this serves as a starting point. Jeff stated some of other projects received from user groups started with last year. Some of these projects have been discussed at the Board of Supervisors Meeting before, some are in the second phase of existing projects. Jeff stated there were some place holders already for the 5-year capital project plan. One of the projects was eliminated and there was a place holder for softball stuff.

Kellie explained the intent of this was an opportunity for the entire community to present. She requested the board let us know a date to have work sessions to be able to have prioritized and scored all projects submitted and for consideration. Stephen wanted community involvement and requested not to have an executive session. Stephen said he would like to see 2 million for the softball infields and that it would be ideal to get that figure in the consideration. Jeff stated that what was handed out was not meant to be the final list. It was discussed that it had been previously mentioned in meetings to start discussions of projects earlier to better allow the opportunity for community councils to discuss. September's meetings of community councils would be ideal. Barb stated she would like to have a work session on budget and projects.

Kellie requested to set work session dates to look more in depth in projects, score, and have time to present to community councils. Stephen asked when we would like this to be submitted. Jeff stated he would like project design and engineering by the beginning of year so would like to see action in December. A work session in November potentially was discussed. Jeff mentioned we talked about how to do preliminary engineering and that we don't get budget until 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the year so it's difficult to start projects with no money. It was proposed to look at date a date in October or November. Stephen requested that this not be same night as a regular board meeting. Jeff stated he thinks anything can be added to list for consideration beforehand and scoring criteria may change.

## **VI. Capital Improvement Projects Past-Status**

Excel spreadsheet contained in packet- Kellie stated we have been working significantly with OMB and staff to see what CIP projects historically were approved, discern what is in progress and what is not. This is the most current listing as of two weeks ago and current funding status granted, a couple of PO's probably hit during that time. We did significant clean up to make current and have a clean sheet and balance. This would be most helpful to go through line by line in a work session. Stephen agreed a line by line work session would be optimal to see status of funds currently. Kellie stated orange colored items are questionable on status and that there are

some projects that did not have approval documents that could be found. Mike Braniff clarified questionable as in no background or stalled and Kellie stated that was correct. Carol Perkins stated she is not getting e-mails and Kellie apologized that she is not on distro given. Pauline stated she didn't realize some e-mails that had come through did not include all Board Members. Kellie asked to let her know when a work session to review past projects would be acceptable.

## **VII. Budget Review Upcoming**

Kellie stated that budget review was upcoming and budgets were due on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August to the administration. Right now no changes were made to budget for Eagle River Chugiak we wanted to update there is no proposed budget changes as of now. Ruth Armstrong asked if they would receive the budget and when. Mike Braniff stated that it is Mayor's budget, and that it was requested a zero budget and no changes be made. Ruth said she still needed to see and approve. Mike said correct. Ruth said we still need to see. Mike indicated that he would send forward as soon as received from administration and keep the board informed. Stephen asked if available in October and Mike said if it is out. Stephen said the Assembly does not get before board per code.

## **VIII. Present User Groups of Eagle River/Chugiak**

Kellie handed out and explained the document requested from the May Board of Supervisors Meeting and the listing showed all users groups that have permits or historical agreements from Parks and Recreation reiterating again that no cooperative use agreements currently exist. A question was asked about where hockey is and it was explained that because FLAMI manages those agreements and user groups. Stephen asked if we could include FLAMI user groups to list. Kelly Willet mentioned she noticed and was just clarifying there was not CUA's. Kellie stated that this has not been a favorable thing at Eagle River Chugiak and that she has brought up before wishing to proceed with CUA's and will just leave it at that.

## **IX. Director's Update**

Kellie Jorgensen gave update. The dashboard handed out was current for August. Hiring status is that we are losing seasonals many going back to school. We are looking for Caretaker I, Caretaker II, and Lifeguard positions. The Rec Spec III is not yet out for recruitment. The department is working to integrate Activenet in a phased approached which is on the internet and making so the public can look and see if pavilions are available online or come in person or phone to inquire and make reservations. This makes for a more user-friendly experience and we are hoping in the next month we can see via the website what is available. We are working with user groups with permitting and going into the winter season permitting. Summer activities such as softball, baseball, and soccer are winding down at moment. We are waiting on word from Fleet about the status of the loader replacement as well as replacement trucks for the maintenance team to make their jobs easier and more efficient. Harry J. McDonald drive we are waiting to see what grading and classification the road is to discern if it meets current standards. It met standards back in the 80's when built as a private road but we are not sure it is to current standard today and meeting the need of the current road. If it is found not to standard, it will have to be brought to standard which will be at a cost undetermined at this time. Once an estimate is received, we will let the Board know. Historically the road was Parks and Recreation,

and we would be requesting assistance of funding as the utility of the road is for ASD and Parks and Recreation. Carol asked about the subdivision and Kellie stated they are part of conversations as well. Kellie stated in June JBER officials let us know a Mortar Range 2C, was identified in the Beach Lake area. It had been brought up historically prior and kind of swept under the rug and was now being brought back up. There isn't with any certainty known if there are ordinances or not in area. Parks and Rec is requesting a sweep of the area be done because of the West Beach Lake trail going in. Although the range is not where the new trail will be built in, there are nearby old ATV trails that can permit admittance into the range area in question. We are waiting to hear back from Air Force officials about a final determination of requests. Mike Braniff stated the range is historical World War II era and the area on west side of beach lake was a safety buffer for ordinance ranges. There is an urge by the EPA as they are cleaning out and checking out historical areas. It sounds unlikely anything is there, but this was brought to our attention. Kellie stated we want to do our due diligence and requested signage also be placed referencing potential risk. Schroeder Park pickleball courts we have made changes to by means of community input and community survey. Due to these requested changes, there will be changes to firehouse lane as well. We are working with the MAC center and Kellie wanted to commend Yoshiko Flannigan. She stated she has done a wonderful job at MAC with her short tenure there and has been very busy doing all kinds of work getting the team what they need, and she wanted to commend her for work. She stated she was impressed, and that Yoshiko is really turning things. Kellie mentioned also that maybe noticed folks have already noticed but Schroeder Park is victim to a lot of vandalism and graffiti. There is a community group that has formed via a Facebook group watching and patrolling additionally. Parks and Rec got APD involved but very little they can do with vandalism and graffiti, so we wanted to bring to the attention to community councils to be mindful and aware, if you see something say something. Being out in the parks and letting us know when it happens days later is hard to do something about. Chugiak Pool we are working on the 100% for the deck work project. Dan Hagarman is here and doing phenomenal job ensuring that everything is to standard and the final project has a great outcome in the end. A significant clean up to SAP is being done and when that cleanup is completed, we will put that data into Questica which is a monitoring system for the capital projects. The goal going forward is to have projects solid before January so we can get ahead of and execute in the time as they should be. Jeff and Kellie have been working on a playground inventory and have identified a significant need for updates to all playgrounds. We will prioritize and inventory what is most severe and significant. This will likely be an iteration of years instead of one year. We will need to replace many structures that don't meet 2021 ASTM standards. The Harry J. McDonald Center RFP we are waiting to proceed with negotiations from vendor. At the Cook Inlet Archery Range, we are doing a big removal beetle kill that will start 16 September as there is significant work to be done and will be good to reduce fire hazards being completed with ARPA money, not local money. We are revisioning the maintenance shop project approved by the board 2-3 years ago as there was no progress on the project, so we are revisiting with staff and team doing a preliminary what is needed to efficiently operate. We will bring the board into the status of that project evolution and any changes of the scope of the project found.

Representative Jamie Allard asked about Harry J. McDonald Road inquiring if it were up to ASD to let us know the condition of the road. Kellie stated it was not up to ASD and it was up

to CBSERA let us know if not up to standard, so we are working with them and that ASD is part of conversation to let them know of the situation, but it is not up to them to let us know what condition of road is. Jamie asked for more clarification if ASD was responsible for the road or if Parks and Recreation was to which Kellie stated technically Parks and Recreation was as there was a deal made way back when to which Jamie stated that doesn't apply and asked if it was policy or in writing. Kellie stated in writing Parks and Recreation was responsible for the road via a memo. Jamie asked if formally it was an ASD road and asked why ASD had any input. Kellie explained it was a private road for the McDonald Center primarily and secondary ASD accessed. Jamie asked if there was shared usage and that under her impression that the road was maintained and paid for by mill rate and taxpayers and that Parks and Recreation was responsible for road and maintenance and ASD gets to use since given permission to use. Jamie said she doesn't want the taxpayers to pay for road twice essentially. Jeff Urbanus gave more context as the road was originally constructed as access to MAC center only. Because of the original intent of build of the road, it was assumed it was built to lesser standard. As it turns out there was a set of plans and engineering through public works, done according to rules in 80's. Shortly after the road was constructed, the school came about, and they did originally provide maintenance near bottom of the road and Parks and Recreation did maintain the rest of. In the early teens, there was a MAC center employee who liked plowing and it appears ASD lost institutional knowledge responsibility for the plowing. Jeff stated ASD has been a free rider for the better part of a decade. When unknown the condition of the road, CBERSA said they will not take into their inventory and determination of the condition of the road and if it meets standards needs to be completed. Jamie said it's not CBERSA's responsibility, and it is clear to me it's ASD. Mike Braniff added that the road has two beneficiaries and possibly a third if Carol Creek is developed. The relationship worked and would up until we need to replace road and are considering capital investments. Even if Carol Creek doesn't go in and it is only ASD, he doesn't think the board would be inclined to solely pay for road since there are numerous beneficiaries of road.

Ruth Armstrong stated she asked previously for directors update notes to be emailed out prior to board meeting- Kellie apologized she didn't recall hearing the request before now and would send in future.

## **X. Capital Improvement Projects Update**

Jeff Urbanus handed out a project update listing. Here is list of projects over the summer, without going through bit by bit. If you have questions, please ask me. He made reference to the TBC contract expiring with the Boutet company, our term contractor, expiring June 20<sup>th</sup> which impacted some projects. Big projects are Loretta French scoreboards which we will develop a punch list for this week. There was an issue with one of boards not working and we are working with the vendor. Beach Lake Trail crew is on site working now and working on the mushing trail relocation as well. Schroeder Park pickleball courts there was a delay with additional public input, all supplies are on hand for this fall, but we are not sure if we will finish this year with the project. Mt Baldy parking area is underway. The Mirror/Edmonds Lake master plan we have hosted a number of workshops and public survey. We are working on developing a preliminary master plan which will be available in September and will go out for review. In the interest of

time we will save other updates and I will be available for questions after this meeting. Barbara Trost said this is great, and a lot to wrap her head around. Jeff apologized and said his intention was to not have the board learn off of the document handed out but be able to bring back to community councils. Jeff reminded that if there are questions outside of this meeting, he is always about by email to please ask questions.

Barbara stated she couldn't get down to Beach Lake and asked more about. Jeff stated that we started at Dee Lake and that the trail will not be open, but work will be done this fall. We started at Dee Lake before you go through the s curves and will go out to the inlet. Mushing trail relocation is basically from the same point around the lake and a little beyond that consists of two one-way trails now becoming one two-way trail. For a week or two now, new gravel trail work has been going on and this week the mushing trail relocation started. Most of the veg clearing for that has been done flag lines laid out. Before work finishes this fall Chicane gates and fencing should be in place.

## **XI. FLAMI Update**

Chris Canterbury introduced their new manager since July, Yoshika Flannigan. He stated she is a long-time resident of Eagle River/Chugiak and graduated from Chugiak High School in 2006. He mentioned her family operates Okamoto Karate and she has lots of experience helping her family grow the business. He said she has done wonderful taking over and she gives updates to the board and started communication going forward with much improvement. Kellie and Yoshiko are ensuring all deliverables are answered and that we are all on track going forward. Yoshiko gave the rest of the update. She stated they participated at the Bear Paw festival and received interesting feedback from the community and seen the demographic they had not reaching at the facility which was nice. They have increased their social media interactions and instead of paying someone to perform engagement with little results they have someone in house now and are seeing increase in use. For the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration they hosted an open house that included turf time, learn to skate, and other offerings where the community came out about 270 people attending. Many attendees were new transplants from the military, and they toured the building, and it went well. She updated about the facilities and mentioned that George, Tony, and Kellie were working on a glycol leak and pump repair that was causing strain on the refrigeration system which is a hard machine to get back online and was a pressing matter. They are going through the process of getting projects in cue to include LED lights, replacement doors for the facility, and flooring because the carpet is fraying at the doorline. She mentioned the computer system responsible for refrigeration systems reached its life cycle long time ago and no one addressed. She stated the equipment is no longer communicating to system and so it is becoming more and more pressing. She has been asking other rinks what they use and is finding it really depends on flooring used and refrigeration being used. She stated Kellie and her have meetings on Wednesdays and they are making list a of what to do and what should be submitted and working on getting onboard and updated. She stated she originally came in to the MAC to assist with financial reporting and that is where she found oddities. She has since been using accounting through QuickBooks for transparency and ease to see discrepancies and instituted a 2-person system for accounting processes; i.e. cannot leave drawer, transfer in and out of register. There has been a lot of overhaul and financial reporting according to the contract current

and going forward. The ice allocation is going to a new system called Daysmart which she is building from the ground up. Contracts are almost done and ready for dissemination to groups. There has been a lot of communication in user groups and there is concern of cancellations occurring last minute during prime times and ice not being used which is not ok. She is devising a system where groups can email of cancellations, and she can go in and do a remote transfer of ice/time. Stephen asked about deliverables of the contract and if he can get as well and that it would be ideal because we as the Board approve that contract and we need to be informed of. A public question (ERHL representative) came about the showers being scalding hot in locker room. Yoshiko went on to add that ice allocations are done. She indicated ASD impacted and they are working through. She mentioned per the ice allocation policy ASD is annotated as a priority. The problem is middle school ends at 4 and pushed everyone down and she said changed release times of school is the biggest change. We were concerned about high school games but that has been addressed. On the schedule there are one or two exceptions for ASD, we are not taking ice away from people if we can help it. She said we are opening at 5AM and staying open until 10PM. Yoshiko stated she is following ice allocation policy.

Pauline motioned to extend meeting by 15 minutes which was seconded.

Yoshiko stated that there are 8:45PM start times running through till midnight, and they are trying to accommodate and ensure staff is there. The ERHL representative stated this problem of ice being available will only get worse as we are a growing community need bigger facilities. He said he doesn't want kids to play at night and we don't want to play at midnight and asked how do we solve this and have a solution? He stated adults are being squished out. Chris responded that they are not squished out but they just don't like time they are being asked to play. Yoshiko reminded the important thing to remember is to not no show for ice. She said if you want expansion to occur we need to demonstrate population levels and bodies through the door and in reality the higher populations the higher need for resources. She said trying to consolidate those days we do to make both groups happy but also need to alleviate staff. Stephen asked Yoshiko about ice allocation policy and if she had reviewed. Yoshiko stated enthusiastically yes and stated they are following diligently. Yoshiko stated all things are being run through proper ice allocation policy and procedures.

## **XII. Mayoral Appointee-**

Kellie indicated there was a new employee in the community relations position and she was working with her to see how to proceed with the Mayoral Appointee. Kellie said it does sound like it is to be appointed by mayor but it was not clear per code how that comes about and that she would give an update with information she is given. Sarah Davenport spoke up and stated she applied online and called and inquired about the status of and stated she spoke with Maria and Sarah said it appeared Maria was starting to figure out how it worked and didn't really have answer for. Stephen suggested she may need to resubmit an application and in doing so hoping it populates to the top again. Kellie stated she will request status of as well and mention we have candidate by name.

## **XIII. DISCUSSION**

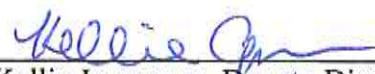
No further discussion.

#### XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Ruth asked for a motion to adjourn and move to executive session. A motion was made, it was seconded, the meeting adjourned around 8:45 PM

  
Stephen Romanelli, Chair

9/9/2024  
Date

  
Kellie Jorgensen, Deputy Director

9/9/2024  
Date

  
Michael Braniff, Director

9/9/24  
Date