

EAGLE RIVER/CHUGIAK PARKS AND RECREATION
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Regular Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Eagle River/Chugiak Parks and Recreation (ERCP&R) Board of Supervisors convened on May 9, 2022, at 7:08 pm via Microsoft Teams. Chair Pete Panarese called the meeting to order.

II. ROLL CALL

Barbara Trost, Birchwood Community Council

~~Alexandra Hill, Alternate Birchwood Community Council~~

Will Taygan, Chugiak Community Council

~~Jackie Welge, Alternate for Chugiak Community Council~~

Camilla Hussein-Scott, Eagle River Community Council

Pete Panarese, Eagle River Valley Community Council

Ruth Armstrong, Alternate for Eagle River Valley Community Council

~~Jasmine Carter, Mayor's Appointee~~

Josh Durand – Parks and Recreation Director

Karen Richards – Parks and Recreation, Principal Administrative Officer

~~John Rodda – The Boutet Company, Project Consultant~~

III. MINUTES

April 11, 2022, minutes were approved.

IV. APPEARANCES

Joyce O'Conner –

Joyce wanted to continue previous discussion related to access of the Loretta French Horse Park and what she feels are some challenges associated.

- Obtaining a day pass – Safety - General Conditions

Parks & Recreation staff will further evaluate guidelines and access associated with the Horse Park access.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS –

VI. OLD BUSINESS

- A. ERNSC Trail Work Proposal – Karen and Taylor met with members of ERNSC and NSAA last week to walk the proposed site to discuss/determine full project scope, objectives, impacts and any additional information needed. Taylor did identify a few additional items of information required of the club as well as project site zone markings to be established for full project evaluation and intended land disturbance visual to

initiate the public process and community council support necessary to moving this project forward. The club now has a list of deliverables needed by Taylor to properly identify all project details necessary. When Taylor has the additional information requested from the club, she will be able to move on to the next step in the project process.

B. CIP Construction Schedule 2022

2022 CIP Projects and anticipated costs were supplied to the board back in February and approved. The projects being worked on for 2022 are 1) Dog Park Parking lot area is being identified and designed for project quotes (fencing and trail design will be forthcoming after the parking area is established) 2) Schroeder Park Tennis Courts are being improved to accommodate both tennis and pickle ball users and the department is in the process of establishing how best to accommodate both venues 3) Loretta French field restorations and improvements to refurbish and re-establish the 2 remaining dirt fields to playable condition and league standards 4) Chugiak Pool Condition Assessment will be accomplished through Maintenance and Operations project management this fall to determine and identify needed improvements, upgrades and repairs so cost estimates can be established. In anticipation that estimated costs may exceed our budgeted CIP funds of \$1 Million dollars the department took advantage of additional ARPA project funding opportunities and submitted a request for a \$1 Million matching grant be approved out of the \$51 Million available to supplement our existing funds in hope of ensuring adequate funding for all pool repairs once identified through the assessment. Actual improvements and repairs would be anticipated to follow in 2023 and 2024. The many ARPA fund requests received by the administration have several more approval processes and cuts anticipated but the department is hopeful that this needed funding for the pool makes it through. 5) Parks & Rec Warm Storage Facility is underway and still anticipated for completion this fall through Maintenance and Operations project management as well.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Street Naming within Mirror Lake Park

The former Camp Carlquist property at the end of Gorsuch Road has been sold and the new owners have requested the Municipality rename their section of roadway to Lakeside Drive. The department has requested that the drive be named as Edmonds Lake Drive to better suit the location and the lake it is adjacent to. There are several pre-existing roads in the service area with the word "lake" included and this would provide a good identifier for addressing and emergency response services etc. ***The board had no opposition to the suggested renaming of this roadway to Edmonds Lake Drive.***

B. Overview of private non-profits under permit/maintenance agreements with P&R
Will would like to understand the opportunities we have for public and private partnerships. He noticed work being done on Schroeder Park disc golf course and wanted to know if the disc golf clubs were performing this work and is looking for an

overview of who is using our parks and holding events. The disc golf basket replacements done last year were performed by a volunteer who contacted and offered to install the baskets Parks & Rec had ready for this site when the disc golf club was not able to get to it for a few years. Will is interested in groups who are doing so and may want to partner with us to help us with the care and development of the parks. The department has established many different partnerships with user groups in several areas. Some of the user groups with established partnerships under permit are the Chugiak Dog Musers, Eagle River Nordic Ski Club, CMBR, AK Disc Golf Association, Chugiak Soccer Club, American Legion Baseball, Chinooks Baseball, Arctic Heat Softball, ACF Church, Cook Inlet Archers, Frontier Fun Flyers. The board enjoys seeing and hearing from these groups and would like to encourage them to attend occasional meetings to report and update on their operations. The department is always receptive to new possibilities and proposed partnerships and any groups or organizations interested in presenting such should contact the department for discussion. Karen will provide a current list of clubs and businesses currently permitting our parks as time allows and other priorities accomplished first.

C. Summer Field Trip

This topic is deferred to a later date. Board members will work amongst themselves to establish what parks and facilities they wish to visit and when.

VIII. ACTION ITEM

A. *Motion- Eagle River/Chugiak Board of Supervisors supports and encourages Anchorage Park Foundation's indigenous place naming project.*

- *Motion A passed unanimously*

B. *Motion- Eagle River/Chugiak Board of Supervisors supports indigenous place name and land acknowledgement signage from CMBR at the Mirror Lake Park Single Track Trails as recommended by the Anchorage Park Foundation, CMBR board of directors and the native village of Eklutna.*

- *Motion B passed unanimously*

IX. INFORMATION

A. Barbara Falls Easement Update

Will wanted to inform the board that even though this property is no longer available, there is a public use access easement to this area with the bridge. Will feels that the Municipality should consider making repairs to the bridge and this area. This access area is problematic in that there is no public parking for access and neither the State or Municipality is positioned to invest the amount of funds it would take to bring this bridge and surroundings to approved standards. It may be in the best interest of Eklutna to consider as this access leads to Eklutna and State Park lands.

B. ARPA Funding - \$52Million

Josh explained that the Assembly and Administration is currently putting a \$51 million dollar package together with ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) dollars that are coming to the MOA

The department solicited information from non-profits and user groups for fund submittals. We also reviewed the criteria for funding and put together a few proposals for possible CIP project recognition funds that meet the criteria such as \$1 Million for CHS Pool Improvements with our matching \$1 Million dollar funds, \$450K water/sewer repairs (includes Beach Lake Lodge), \$3 Million for new filtration systems in all 6 pools. The types of projects that the administration is considering is improvements to broad band infrastructure etc., and if the board has additional ideas, requests, and priorities they should present them to their assembly members.

C. AMATS Funding

Will and Camilla wrote up and submitted information regarding two Eagle River/Chugiak service area projects recommended for consideration in the draft AMATS 2023-2026 projects.

X. DISCUSSION

- A. Lion's Club land trade legislation impact? What land will be added to Chugach State Parks? Essentially trading 40 acres of Lion's Park to the Lion's Club and adding 10,000 acres from South Pioneer Ridge Trail to Chugach State Park and 60 acres in Meadow Creek. Information on this land trade can be found on the legislation website under "land trade" for all information on this and identified as House Bill 304.

XI. TABLED ITEMS

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8: 45pm


Pete Panarese, Chair

Aug 9, 2022
Date


Mike Braniff, Director

8/16/2022
Date