



## Meeting Minutes

Upper Susitna Seniors Center, Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 7:00 P.M.

- I. **Establish Quorum** - Kimberly, Trevor, Mark, Peter, Bill & Wes
- II. **Call meeting to order** 7:04 pm by Trevor
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Minutes** - (Mark / Bill) Motion to make some amendments re: the undercrossing at next meeting
- V. **Treasurer's report**
  - a) Reconciliation reports provided
  - b) Checking \$19,910.71
  - c) Savings \$244.45
- V. **Approval of meeting agenda** (Kimberly / Peter)
- VI. **Persons to be Heard (5 minutes suggested)**
  - a. **Anthony Origer** -
    1. Running for MEA Board of Directors
    2. Susitna west is a new district and this new, empty seat is contested by 3 people.
    3. Residents will receive voting materials around April 1st.
    4. Randall Kowalke supported Anthony's bid.
  - b. **Daniel "Dan" Petersen - Kiewit**
    1. Introduction
    2. Grade work / Overpasses at Mile 92 and 100.
    3. Union Signatory - hiring practices support locals for the most part.
    4. Plan to be paving by the end of August and be done by September
    5. Plan to have limited impact to traffic flow.
    6. Extra wide 8' shoulders will help with pedestrian traffic
    7. Contact 808-753-6571
  - c. **Wes Hudson** - two applications have been posted on local bulletin boards for marijuana sales
    1. Assemblyman Kowalke - there is an initiative that may ban marijuana activity outside of low grade hemp outside the more populated areas. Subdivisions typically have regulations against commercial businesses.
    2. Palmer and Wasilla are implementing their own regulations.
    3. If we don't act as a community council soon, then we would fall under whatever the State of Alaska regulates.
    4. The Talkeetna Community Council will be responsible for responding to the current applicants.
    5. Wes was prompted by audience members to circulate a petition amongst like minded citizens.



6. A zoning initiative might be a way to restrict, like some areas do for liquor licenses.

## VII. Correspondence

- a) Received - None
- b) Sent - None

## VIII. Committee and Governmental Reports

- a. Road Service Areas (15 & 29) - Bill Stearns - Starting to thin the snow wings and opening the ditches. They are working a month ahead of schedule.
- b. Borough Assembly update - Randall Kowalke -
  - a. Burn permits of FREE!
    - i. All burn barrels are **required** to have a permit.
    - ii. For more information: [forrestry.alaska.gov/burn](http://forrestry.alaska.gov/burn)
  - b. Recreational Bond Package - If you don't want new taxes, vote against it. \$18 million to repair pools and an ice rink, but also includes some smaller projects including the Ridge Trail. 4% of this money would support the Upper Susitna area. Since the lower borough will likely pass this bond package, Kowalke is proposing some amendments to support our community's recreational areas. This newly proposed money would support the ice rink at the Talkeetna Elementary as one example. 4 votes will be required to support the amendment to add the rec improvements for the upper borough. "If it passes, we may as well get some benefit from it." His proposed amendments to this bond would increase the overall tax burden by only 50 cents per \$100,000 of property.
- c. Bylaws Committee – no meeting
- d. Grant Expenditure Committee - checks have been issued, a few not yet cashed. An extra \$19k was approved! Quite likely it is the last of its kind.
  - a. Work session will be scheduled before next meeting.
  - b. Submittals for grants encouraged.
- e. Trails Committee - no meeting
- f. Ways & Means Committee - No report
- g. Cemetery Committee - Denise Chappel - Notes submitted and reported.
  - a. Insurance discovery
  - b. Parcel discovery
  - c. Seeking trustees

## X. Old Business

- b. IRS 501(c)(3) - Gary is working on reapplying
- c. Revenue Sharing Grants
- d. Sunshine Creek Improvements - Nothing new
- e. Parks Highway Undercrossing - Nothing new

## XI. New Business - None



**XII. Board Member Announcements - None**

**XIII. Announcements** -- Donations are welcome of up to \$50 per calendar year to help defray administrative costs of carrying out council business.

**XIV. Adjournment** 8:05 pm