



Willow Area Community Organization  
P.O. Box 1027 - Willow - AK 99688  
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[www.waco-ak.org](http://www.waco-ak.org)

### *Meeting Minutes*

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*Date: May 1, 2017*

*Occasion: General Meeting*

*Called to Order: 7:02 pm*

**Quorum:** Board Quorum and Community Quorum present.

**Agenda:** Approved adding the following to New Business: 4th of July Parade, Marijuana Conditional Use Permit, Patti White request to use WCC gravel parking lot for Willow Get Together, and Willow Clean Up.

**Minutes:** April 3, 2017 minutes approved as written.

**Borough Assembly Report:** Assembly will vote on budget soon. Discussed aspects of Recreation Bond. May 4, Gold Torrent will hold a public presentation on mine progress and representatives from State agencies will attend. Randall will try to make community meetings in Willow and Talkeetna (on same night) in the future.

#### **Officer Reports:**

- 1. Secretary:** No report.
- 2. Treasurer:** Vince handed out projected budget for 2018.
- 3. Vice Chair:** Jim was told geothermal system wasn't working but he checked and it was.
- 4. Chair:** No report.

**Guest Speaker:** Did not show up.

#### **Committee Reports:**

- 1. Carnival:** Carnival 2018 planning meetings will start in August.
- 2. Trails:** A contract for trail easement was let and work will begin on a new trail from park to Windssock this summer. Trails are soft – and are being torn up by 4-wheelers.
- 3. Youth Forum:** Meeting May 4 at 5:30 in WCC.
- 4. CERT:** Fourteen CERT members toured Tsunami Center in Palmer. Ten members participated in mass casualty drill – it was a good experience. May 6 is Fire Safety Event at WCC.
- 5. Willow Recycling:** Recycling is growing in the Borough. Trying to get recycling in the schools. Will start a community compost project behind Methodist Church. Mary Shreves talked about the Borough recycling conference. The point of recycling is to keep material out of landfills.
- 6. Fire Service:** There were 9 calls in April. An open house was held at station 12-4.

#### **New Business**

1. WACO Scholarship winner was announced: Debra Johnston, a senior at Su Valley, was awarded this year's scholarship. Only 1 scholarship was awarded due to budget constraints.
2. 4th of July parade permits and crossing guards cost is up to \$700 and asked if we can save money and keep the parade on the west side of the highway and thus not crossing the Parks Highway.

**MOTION:** Explore alternate parade route that does not cross the Parks Highway or railroad tracks.  
Motion seconded.

**VOTE:** Passed unanimous.

3. Marijuana Conditional Use Permit was discussed briefly. Public comments need to be in by May 19th and meeting at Borough Offices is June 5th.
4. Patti White asked to use left section of gravel parking lot across from WCC every Saturday and Sunday all summer for Willow Get Together. She will provide portable outhouse when WCC is closed. Discussion ensued.

**MOTION:** Allow Willow Get Together to hold event on May 27, 28 and 29 and June 3 and 4. Then revisit request at June 5 WACO meeting and complete a use agreement. Motion seconded.

**VOTE:** Passed unanimous.

5. Jim Huston said Willow Chamber of Commerce can no longer take the lead on Willow Clean up and asked WACO to take charge. Jim Huston can provide the trailer and bags. Jim Rogers said he would take charge of Willow Clean Up. The dates are May 12 – 21.

**At-Large Representative Reports:**

1. Talon attended various meetings.
2. Carrie reminded everyone the Gold Torrent Progress Presentation is May 4 in WCC.

**Community Groups/Clubs**

1. **Chamber of Commerce:** Will nominate and elect Business of the Year. Also will recognize pioneers of Willow.
2. **Community Enrichment:** No report.
3. **Library:** Discussed May activities. Summer reading program begins July 1.
4. **Lion's Club:** Some members attended Lion's Convention in Fairbanks. Lion's approved 4 thousand dollars in scholarships.
5. **Willow Health Organization:** April Health Fair was a great success with 150 participants. Farmer's Market will start in early July.
6. **Willow Historical Wildlife Foundation:** Meeting this month.
7. **Willow Dog Musers Association:** No report.
8. **Garden Club:** Presentation on Lawns May 17th at 6:30 in WCC.
10. **PTA:** Thanks to Chamber of Commerce for contribution to Extravaganza.

**Persons to be Heard/Announcements:**

1. John Spitzberg is a board member of Sunshine Community Health Center and is starting a committee on veteran's health needs. All veterans are welcome.
2. Carrie has more information on tree seedlings. If you want some contact her.

Adjourned 8:35 pm. Next Meeting June 5.

SUBMITTED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Harry Banks, Chair

Date