



Willow Area Community Organization
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Meeting Minutes

Date: September 11, 2017
Occasion: General Meeting
Called to Order: 7:04 pm

Quorum: Board Quorum and Community Quorum present.

Agenda: Approved as written.

Minutes: August 7, 2017 minutes approved with corrections.

Borough Assembly Report: There will be a School Board and Assembly joint meeting this month. There will be no Oct 3 election in Willow as there are no items for Willow to vote on. City of Wasilla hopes to ban all plastic bags. The City Council will act on this soon.

Officer Reports:

- 1. Secretary:** Read thank you notes from Library and Food Pantry for revenue share grant money.
- 2. Treasurer:** Had a Ways and Means Committee meeting. The committee proposed the WACO yearly budget should be presented at the January meeting, that more events could be hosted in WCC and look into the possibility of serving beer and wine at Carnival. Houston Lodge is a new pull-tab operator. Pull-tab sales have picked up at Pioneer.
- 3. Vice Chair:** Building Operations Committee members are Talon Boeve, Julie Mitchell and Carrie Smolden. Talon hopes to add more people. There will be a Carnival snowplow meeting in October to coordinate plowing. Lou spoke and offered to donate a mounted moose head to WACO to hang in WCC. WACO accepted the moose and will find someone to volunteer to hang it.
- 4. Chair:** **MOTION:** Approve Talon Boeve as Vice Chair. Motion seconded.
VOTE: Passed unanimous.

Guest Speaker: Kierre Childers, representing MEA, spoke on the rate case change approved by RCA that goes into effect on September 1st. She explained the changes that will appear on electric bills. Twenty families in Willow with ETS (electric thermal storage program or geothermal heat source) will be affected. The ETS program will be grandfathered to those currently using it but it is not transferable.

There were questions and comments from members.

Committee Reports:

- 1. Carnival:** Encouraged people to submit T-shirt designs for Carnival. Reported the carnival committee wants to reduce 2018 Carnival to 3 days by eliminating the last Sunday. This is due to lack of participation on that Sunday and the challenge of finding volunteers.
- 2. Trails:** Summer trail construction of a multi-use trail from Newman Park along Willow Creek Parkway is complete. Thanks to Mat-Su Trails and Parks Foundation and WACO revenue share for funding for next year's projects.
- 3. Youth Forum:** Harry spoke about the park dedication. About 60 people attended. The park has a new sign and new trails. The hope is to build a pavilion and dog park soon.
- 4. CERT:** Emergency Preparedness expo will be held at the Menard Center on Set 30th from 10 am to 5 pm. There will be 50 exhibitors and free food. Willow CERT will present 2 demonstrations at the expo. CERT training will be Nov. 11,12 and 18,19. Thanked MEA for training supplies.
- 5. Willow Recycling:** Reminded everyone of the days and hours Willow recycling is open.
- 6. Fire Service:** There were 7 fire calls in August and 11 ambulance runs. New engine from Anchorage will be outfitted with new equipment within 2 -3 weeks. A pumper tender was donated from Butte Fire

Service Area. There were 6 new applicants for responders and 5 new hires that will start classes.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

At-Large Representative Reports:

1. Bill said the Willow Library Association grant is moving to the next step.
2. Amber had no report.
3. Carrie said the ASAP comment period is over. She has contact information if anyone has complaints regarding marijuana odor.

Community Groups/Clubs

1. **Chamber of Commerce:** No report.
2. **Community Enrichment:** No report.
3. **Library:** Julie spoke about September library events. On Oct 5 there will be an Army Band concert and Oct 31 will be Trunk or Treat.
4. **Lion's Club:** No report.
5. **Willow Health Organization:** One more Farmer's Market.
6. **Willow Historical Wildlife Foundation:** Next meeting is Sept 13 at 7 pm.
7. **Willow Dog Musers Association:** No report.
8. **Garden Club:** There is a composting class Saturday the 18th.
10. **PTA:** There are 136 students enrolled in K-5 this fall. Asked for folks to keep an eye on the school building, as there has been some vandalism. School newsletter is online. Students wrote thank you letters to WACO for past year-end grant.

Persons to be Heard/Announcements:

1. Mayor Halter said he had a private meeting regarding funding for railroad spur. He also talked about getting fish through commercial nets and into rivers and encouraged members to attend an October meeting about this issue and voice their concerns.

Adjourned 8:15 pm. Next Meeting October 4

SUBMITTED:

Secretary Date

APPROVED:

Harry Banks, Chair Date