



Willow Area Community Organization
P.O. Box 1027 - Willow - AK 99688
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Meeting Minutes

Date: November 1, 2017

Occasion: General Meeting

Called to Order: 7:10 pm

Quorum: Board Quorum present. No Community Quorum.

Agenda: Approved as written.

Minutes: September 11, 2017 minutes approved.

Borough Assembly Report: There will be an Assembly meeting Thursday to discuss Title 43 on subdivisions. Mat Su Health Foundation approved a \$1.7 million grant for the Willow Library. The Foundation will help with continued fundraising for the library. Randall said the Willow ice rink improvements would happen.

Officer Reports:

1. Secretary: No report.

2. Treasurer: Financials look better with Houston Lodge as a new pull-tab vendor.

3. Vice Chair: Snow removal of gravel parking lot is not done by Borough. Talon is getting a quote on cost to plow regularly. Talon is looking into having the Borough re-key WCC and applying for parking lot to be restriped this spring. She is also seeking bids on cleaning the carpet in the library and hallway in WCC.

4. Chair: Mat Su Borough transportation survey will be posted on the WACO web site. It is due November 15th.

MOTION: Approve Tami Roehl as board member at large. Motion seconded.

VOTE: Passed unanimous.

Guest Speaker: Gold Torrent general manager Stan Foo presented an overview of the status of mine operations. The mine will haul approximately 200 tons a day in 20/30 ton side dump trucks from the mine site in Hatcher Pass to the mill at mile 77 on the Parks Highway. Trucks will operate 5 days a week, 24 hours per day. No chemicals will be used in gold processing. The tailings consist of quartz sand and clay and the sand may be sold as construction material. The operation will be in full production by November 2018 and may last from 4 – 6 years depending on the ore source.

There were questions and comments from members including if Gold Torrent will have a job fair at WCC before they start hiring and concern was expressed about the need for a turn lane from the high speed Parks Highway into the mill site.

If anyone has questions about highway safety etc. they can contact Keven Vakalis at Alaska DOT.

Committee Reports:

1. Carnival: Next meeting November 20.

2. Trails: Funding for winter trails from the Borough is in place.

3. Youth Forum: The driveway to the east parking lot is almost complete. Work on the park is done for the season and will resume next spring. The next projects will be the dog park and ballpark.

4. CERT: Thanks to everyone for a very successful Trunk or Treat. Eight CERT members helped direct traffic during the event. First CERT basic training starts in November. The classes are full with 35 participants. Willow CERT received an honorable mentioned at National CERT meeting.

5. **Willow Recycling:** Make sure recycled materials are washed or rinsed.
6. **Fire Service:** There were 10 fire calls in September. New engine going into service within 2 weeks.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

At-Large Representative Reports:

No reports.

Community Groups/Clubs

1. **Chamber of Commerce:** No report.
2. **Community Enrichment:** No report.
3. **Library:** Trunk or Treat very successful with about 150 kids attending. Thanks to all who donated and helped.
4. **Lion's Club:** Tom said the group cannot be in charge of the Holiday Dinner but will do something. Sue said she will organize the event. Community calendar is at the printers. Lions will continue with giving tree, pig raffle and skate night will be the 3rd Friday in November.
5. **Willow Health Organization:** No report.
6. **Willow Historical Wildlife Foundation:** Next meeting is Nov 6 at 5:50 pm.
7. **Willow Dog Musers Association:** No report.
8. **Garden Club:** No meeting in November but December meeting will be on forcing bulbs.
10. **PTA:** No report.

Persons to be Heard/Announcements:

1. **Sunshine Transit update:** The transit system gave over 16,000 rides last year. Currently they have 12 buses and 14 employees. They are here to meet the needs of the community so let them know if need anything.

Adjourned 8:18 pm. Next Meeting December 6

SUBMITTED:

Secretary

Date

APPROVED:

Harry Banks, Chair

Date