

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Funny River Advisory Planning Commission

August 4, 2022 Agenda

A. Call to Order (Invocation, Pledge)

Don Fritz 7:01pm

B. Roll Call

Don F, Jim H, Jerry H, Mike M, Kevin O (Julie V had prior engagement)

C. Approval of Unapproved minutes July 12, 2022

All approve

D. Approval of Agenda

All approve

E. Public Comment(5 minute limit)

None

F. Report

a. Chief Browning on Fire station update

Fire chief Roy Browning presented that starting October 1st the Funny River fire station would be manned 24/7. It will be staffed with 6 new employees that recently finished their EMS training. He pointed out that they are waiting for the delivery of a new ambulance before the fire station can be operational. He also explained that a new youth training program for 14-18yr olds, interested in pursuing a career in fire science.

b. Post office meeting report

Jim Harpington went over the conversation he had with Tim Bruno. He learned that there are more types of post offices than originally thought. Kevin volunteered to contact them on the specifics village post office.

c. Survey update

So far over 100 responses to the online survey. Several paper survey's had been filled out and turned into the Funny River community center. It was decided that the paper surveys would be tallied with multiple members present for accountability. There was concern from multiple members who did not receive the postcard in the mail about the survey.

d. Budget request report

The Funny River APC's Zoom account was approved. The money for printing and postage for the FR survey was also approved

e. Transfer station

On multiple occasions the FR transfer station has been over flowing. The concerns voiced by members are; that commercial business are using it, hazmats are not being properly disposed, doors too full to latch allowing wildlife in. Jerry suggested of having it manned and closed during certain hours. Kevin suggested charging businesses to use it and that would go towards paying for it being staffed. Jerry would do more research and tabled till next meeting.

G. Adjournment

All approved 8:45pm

**COOPER LANDING ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
LOCATION: ZOOM TELECONFERENCE OR
COOPER LANDING COMMUNITY HALL
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022
6:00 PM
UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER 6:00pm
2. ROLL CALL –
 - a. Y. Galbraith, J. Cadieux, D. Story, L. Johnson, K. Recken present. H. Harrison, C. Degernes excused.
 - b. Nancy Carver (APC Liason), Alice Rademacher HDR Sterling Hwy. MP 45-60 Public Involvement Coordinator, Jonathan Tymick (DOT&PF), Patrick Cotter (Project Manager at RESPEC for the Unit 395 Planning Project), Jesse Bjorkman (KPB Assembly and Candidate for State Senate)
 - c. Rev. Steven, Melissa Brennan, Sherrie Peckham, Jerry Fox, Rhonda Lynn, Al Nirenberg
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – K. Recken moves to approve the agenda as written, L. Johnson seconds. All approve via roll-call vote.
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES for August 03, 2022 – Y. Galbraith moves to approve the minutes as written. L. Johnson seconds. All approve via roll-call vote.
5. CORRESPONDENCE
 - a. Notice of Decision regarding Quartz Creek Subdivision Outfitters Way Replat Preliminary Plat
6. PUBLIC COMMENT/PRESENTATION WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE
 - a. None
7. REPORT FROM BOROUGH
 - a. DOT&PF Sterling Hwy MP 45-60 Project report and questions/answers. Jonathan Tymick, PE, Project Manager, AKDOT&PF.
 - i. The open house earlier this month went well. 22 members of the public attended. Much of the feedback was regarding the value of and need for more imagery to show locations on the maps and roll plots.
 - ii. The phases 3 and 4 package was awarded to QAP. They anticipate working through Thanksgiving and shutting down after that for the season.
 - iii. Q: K. Recken asked about the work they will be doing.

1. A: J. Tymick said that they will be trying to excavate and fill in the highs in the terrain and fill-in the lows spots of the terrain within Phases 3 and 4.
- iv. Q: K Recken asked what MP the two alignments will intersect?
- v. A: J Tymick answered just about 800' west of the steep hill across from Sportsman's Landing. Though the "tight diamond" option was the most expensive it has allowed them to avoid wetlands and cultural resources while providing material for the bridge site.
- b. Marcus Mueller, KPB Land Manager
 - i. Compost Dump, Stumpy's Tree Service (Shane Cottam) was awarded the contract to
 - a. separate trash,
 - b. burn,
 - c. move unburned debris off site,
 - d. grade the site.
 2. The goal of the contract is to "hit the reset button on the site" and be prepared for being able to use the site again as intended.
 3. There will be an announcement in the Crier with information about continued use of the site during the burn.
 4. Concern was raised by K Recken and seconded by Y Galbraith about wind events and vulnerability of the burning material. CLES is aware of the burn but if winds occur the fire could be difficult to control. M Mueller indicated they were counting largely on the weather being so wet right now.
 5. The next management opportunity will occur when needed as there is now funding for the management of the green materials site.
 6. J Cadieux indicated it is highly valued in the community and we are happy that our site can continue where it is now.
 7. K Recken thanked M Mueller for the KPB's action.
 - ii. Mayor C. Pierce signed his resignation. The Assembly nominated Mike Navarre as interim mayor until a special election can be held. M. Navarre will take office on October 1st and efforts will be made to make the transition smooth and attend to "housekeeping." The next elected mayor will serve to the end of C Pierce's original term in October, 2023.
 - iii. KPB Forestry Project to mitigate spruce bark beetle kill has been a bit on hold since D Truitt left. Her position has not yet been filled. Community Wildfire Defense funding has come available from the USFS that many communities in the KPB qualify for. A grant application will be submitted and Cooper Landing will be some component of that grant. The application is due Oct 7th. Awards will be announced in Spring, 2023 for action in Summer 2023. HEA and CEA will be included for powerline clearing.

1. Y. Galbraith asked whether the KPB might be increasing the amount of trees per acre that can be removed given the beetle kill in the borough.
 - a. M. Mueller said that two written policies may be referenced online on the KPB Land Management website: 1. The Hazard Tree and Firewise Policy and 2. The Firewood Gathering Policy.
 - b. Dispersed use is a big part of the design of the limits of the Firewood Gathering Policy. It is structured to encourage folk to not take from all one area. If it is 5 trees, you fill up your truck and move to a different spot.
 - c. If there is a tree on KPB land that poses a direct threat to a structure or driveway than the Hazard Tree and Firewise Policy allows the tree to be removed. It can also extend a landowner's Firewise plan to adjacent KPB property.

8. OLD BUSINESS – none

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Patrick Cotter, RESPEC Unit 395 Public Participation Plan

- i. The public information packet is a map for public participation. It is not rigid and can flex to include other elements.
- ii. The first event will occur on September 20th will be an informal drop-in session at the Cooper Landing Brewery with maps on the wall and sticky notes so people can step in and express how the community feels about the project and the parcel.
- iii. The next event will be at the Community Hall on September 21st and will be more like an open house with some guiding questions and ideas and folks will be able to vote on how much they like or dislike each.
- iv. In the meantime they are developing an online interactive map and a website. People will be able to make comments on the map and others can like or dislike the comments in each area to gauge community sentiment.
- v. The goal for the first two events is to help learn of the community's vision and values for Unit 395, Juneau Bench lands.
- vi. The next event would be in October or November and will include the first iteration or summary of what they learned from the community. It would present alternatives and ideas.
- vii. August 4th was the first site visit with M. Mueller and A. Hughes of KPB Land Management, D. Story representing the CLAPC and Respec planner P. Cotter and his geotechnical partner where the Respec planners were first introduced to the physical lay of the land.

- viii. 40 test holes will be excavated to determine the feasibility of construction options, gather geotechnical data, etc. This will occur when the team comes to Cooper Landing for the Sep 20-21 events.
- ix. Interviews with individuals will be scheduled starting from the stakeholder list but others can be included.
 - 1. K. Recken asked who P. Cotter worked for.
 - a. P. Cotter explained that Respec is a planning and engineering company that works with other groups to do planning projects around the state.
- x. Respec has pulled together the land use plans, geotechnical data, EIS information etc. to set the stage for the rest of the planning process.
 - 1. J. Cadieux asked whether the Landscape Linkages document is included in those plans and explained that it is an important source of information to determine the wildlife and natural systems information of the area and the help understand why some parcels were given protective classification.
 - 2. P. Cotter said he has not reviewed that one yet but is interested in including it.
- xi. One of the initial documents they produce will be a summary of the documents they used as sources and will create a bibliography of sorts.
- xii. J. Cadieux asked for comments from the commissioners
 - 1. D. Story said the project timeline is pretty short for the scope of this 1000 acre unit. More time will be needed for the community to reflect on ideas and discuss them, learn about data that is gathered by the team and decide what they like and do not like in a potential plan.
 - 2. P Cotter responded that the target of 6 months is aggressive and they would be flexible if more time is needed. Adjustments can be made.
- xiii. K. Recken said the immediate nature of the meetings is something that is concerning because of the seasonal nature of the community. She suggested possibly holding the two planned dates of the 20th and 21st further apart.
- xiv. D Story advocated for the importance of imagery, not just roll plots but other photographic images, etc. to help people align their knowledge of the areas with plans and ideas that are suggested.
 - 1. P. Cotter said Corvus Design is on the team and they are very good at providing the landscape level context of imagery.
- xv. K. Recken said that the public notice locations may need to change.

1. D. Story mentioned that we will just need to adjust the locations that we post on our website to reflect where we are actually doing so.
 2. J. Cadieux said that she would follow up with N. Carver to adjust those.
 3. N Carver will contact KPB Clerk for guidance and copy J Cadieux.
- xvi. Y. Galbraith asked whether it would be appropriate to include Alaska Housing Finance Corporation or Kenai Peninsula Housing Initiative,
1. D Story asked if Rural Cap would be appropriate to include.
 2. P. Cotter said that it a stand-alone task of the project to assess Affordable Housing possibilities that can be included the plan.
- xvii. K. Recken said she thinks the draft plan should come back to the community and probably including a public meeting before it goes to the Planning Commission and Assembly.
1. J. Cadieux said that the public will need to have an opportunity to give feedback after feasibility studies have been done since early comments may become irrelevant after a feasibility study determines certain aspects are not viable. People's ideas may change from their first opportunities to provide input to when data starts rolling in.
- xviii. A. Nirenberg asked about the costs to the borough.
1. P. Cotter said that this is really the beginning of the assessments. Costs will become known once more investigation is carried out.
- xix. J. Cadieux indicated the people of Cooper Landing want the details including data that is gathered on e.g. geotechnical drilling. Please be ready to answer questions and provide details.
- xx. J Cadieux asked to confirm whether it the 20th and 21st would be the next time we hear from RESPEC.
1. P. Cotter said that is correct and suggested adding RESPEC to the agenda for the October CLAPC meeting and for each month that CLAPC meets.
- xxi. Northern Economics will be doing cost estimates, Information Insights, J Hansen from Cold Climate Housing Research Center will be working on the affordable housing assessment, ABR, Inc will be working on the habitat review, specialty wildlife and wetlands analysis and reviews.
- xxii. Patrick.cotter@respec.com Respec will also have an email list to be included on any project communications. The website, once up, will also be a means to reach out to the team.
- xxiii. P. Cotter asked about the best name for the project.

1. J Cadieux and L Johnson both expressed the importance of “Unit 395” as it is from the Kenai Area Plan and has been long associated with the parcel and is widely known.
2. D Story indicated some members of the community know the unit by “West Juneau Bench” or “Juneau Bench” area.

10. PLAT REVIEW – none

11. INFORMATION and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Seward Highway and Alyeska Highway Intersection Improvements: See information on that website, posted on the Crier, or CLAPC website to provide public input on that project.

12. COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS

- a. J. Cadieux thanked everyone

13. ADJOURNMENT – L. Johnson moves to adjourn. Y. Galbraith seconds. All approve via roll-call vote. 7:21pm

For more information or to submit comments please contact:

David Story, Secretary Treasurer or Janette Cadieux, Chair, P.O. Box 694, Cooper Landing, 99572 CooperLandingAPC@gmail.com