

# Meeting Minutes April 12, 2023

## Meadow Lakes Community Council Inc.

### Minutes of April 12, 2023

◆ 3 Officers required for quorum: TOTAL = YES ◆

Pres: Camden Yehle Y; Vice Pres: Steve Edwards  
Y; Treasurer: Trish Jacob Y; Sec: Patricia Fisher  
Y; Council Coordinator: Tim Swezey Y

◆ 13 Members of the Meadow Lakes Community required for quorum: YES ◆

Meeting Quorum = Yes

Meeting conducted at the on Zoom and in Person at Meadow Lake Seniors  
Recorded live and posted on Facebook after the meeting

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Camden Yehle.

**Quorum:** The Membership Committee determined that there was a quorum.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited.

**Consent Agenda:** President Camden Yehle asked for a motion to accept the Consent Agenda, which includes the agenda and the minutes dated March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The Consent Agenda was pass with no objections.

#### Board Reports:

**Gaming:** Chair Ariel Cannon reported on the gaming event at the Palmer Depot in March conducted by Combat Entertainment. The next event, the last of the season, will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> in Palmer. The donation of 2022 gaming proceeds, as provided by State of Alaska gaming regulations, will be made to Battle Dawgs, a Veteran's support group.

**Safety:** Safety Chair Chad Scott asked everyone to be safe.

**Vice President:** Steve Edwards reported that Road Service Area Board met recently and picked out two projects as spring small projects: Skyview and Meadow Lakes Loop.

Steve asked that you advise him of the name of any "Uncertified Road" that might be worthy of upgrade.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Trish Jacob gave a report of the highlights of the financial report. A CD was opened and we received our 2023 Community Assistance funds.

**President:** A new version of the Water Setback ordinance is being prepared by Assembly members Tew and Yundt, after the original ordinance failed to receive the approval of the Planning Commission. A new version of the Gravel ordinance will come before the Planning Commission on April 17. In the Nevitt v. MLCC case the Judge ordered a Judicial Settlement Conference which will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Camden announced a MLCC Quarterly Board, meeting which is open to the public, will be held on April 19<sup>th</sup>. A new Metal "Pick and Pull" junk yard has petitioned the Borough for a Conditional Use permit. If approved It would be located on Vine Road, and is outside the MLCC council area.

**Water Set Back Ordinance:** Patti Fisher gave a brief history of the MSB's current Water Setback Ordinance. The proposed ordinance by Tew and Yundt would change the Setback from 75 feet, which has been the setback since 1987, to 45 feet. The Planning Commission voted 5 to 1 against the original ordinance to make the change to 45 feet. It was pulled by the Assembly and is being rewritten by the Planning Department, with a possible 25-foot setback with a riparian zone required. Matt LaCroix, Meadow Lakes resident, who works for EPA, explained that there are no standard state setbacks. In general, state jurisdictions commonly have a 100-foot setback. Anchorage has a setback of 25 feet. Matt



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reported that starting In 2007, over a period of three years, the Borough studied the water set-back/riparian zone issue. No legislation passed the Borough as a result of the study. Steve Edwards asked if grass could be considered a riparian buffer. Matt said it would depend on what the ordinance said. There are "Best Practices" for protection of wetlands on the MSB website.

### **Presentation: Update to the Mat-Su Borough-wide Comprehensive Plan. Kelsey Anderson, MSB**

**Planning:** Kelsey is attending Council meetings to make residents aware that the Comprehensive plan is being updated. As part of the update study she believes that there are trade-offs as to how a government is able to function. The trade-offs are: 1) to Provide high quality services, 2) to maintain low density, and 3) to keep taxes low. Camden asked the Question: Where does the tax revenue come from by area in the Borough? Planning is looking for some outside professional company to do a Land-Use Physical Analysis to answer that question. Patti asked if the current update was looking at the issue of the future "Class" of the Borough. Steve commented that ultimately, we are going to change to a First-class borough, and wondered if the update study was considering that issue. Kelsey said that the question of Borough class is political, but should be considered.

The planning group is considering what it means to live in an Urban area versus a Rural Area.

In the past the Planning Department has been good in writing plans, but not implementing them.

Kelsey wants to tie the Comp Plan into the long-range Strategic Plan. She reported the Pillars of Planning as:

- 1) Guiding growth through Compatible Land Use
- 2) Prioritizing Economic Development
- 3) Delivering High Quality Services
- 4) Providing Safe, Equitable, Efficient Transportation Choices
- 5) Protecting Natural Community Assets
- 6) What does it mean to have Healthy Thriving Resident?

Kelsey suggested getting together a small group to discuss suggestions for the plan.

### **Meeting business:**

#### **MLCC Election 2023**

Camden explained that this was the opportunity for members to add their name to the slate of officers. Secretary Patti Fisher read the proposed slate for the May election. (Chair of the Nominating Committee Sherri Rusher was attending, but was sick with a cold). Patti asked for anyone interested to add their name to the proposed slate.

The slate, as currently developed, was reported as follows:

President – Camden Yehle

Secretary – Patricia Fisher

Safety Chair – Chad Scott

Gaming Chair – Ariel Cannon

Education Chair – Tish Link

Capital Improvement Program Chair – Kim Kalmbach

Patti asked a second time if anyone was interested in adding their name to the slate.

Patti asked a third time if any member would like to add their name to the slate.

A motion was made by Ariel Cannon to approve the slate as presented, seconded by Linda, Conover. The slate was accepted with no opposition.

Patti reported the slate will be voted upon at the May meeting. Ballots will be sent out to members via email in the next two weeks.

### **Correspondence:**

Camden discussed the platting application for Garrison Ridge on Meadow Lakes Loop. Steve Edwards commented that Meadow Lakes Loop was undergoing review by the Borough, and that a roadway with



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multiple driveways could be a concern. The Road Service Area board is trying to come up with mitigating issues for drainage and snow removal. A motion was made by Patti Fisher, seconded by Tim Swezey, in favor of the sending a letter of no-objection to the Platting Board on the Garrison Ridge application. A roll-call vote was taken and the membership approved sending the letter.

### Agency Reports:

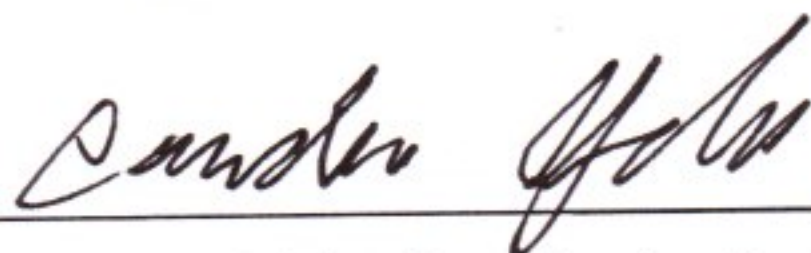
**Tawyna Hightower, West Lake Fire Department:** Chief Hightower reported the statistics on fire department operations for the past month. She showed a picture of the Sunset Fuel Break. This is the 200-ft wide fire break, 6.2 miles long, constructed by the state Forestry Department between Meadow Lakes and Houston. Tawyna reminded everyone of the "Community Connect" website. This website records personal residential information, input by residents. It helps the fire department plan for their actions when approaching an on-going fire. Wild Fire preparedness day is May 6<sup>th</sup>. This event is at Station: 7-3, 10073 W. Parks Highway. MLCC will participate in the event.

### Persons to be Heard:

MLCC Cleanup: Patti announced that Meadow Lakes Cleanup will take place on May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Danielle Pond, Outreach Services Coordinator, Wasilla Area Seniors, reported on fundraising activities at Wasi. The "Miles for Meals" drive begins with an On-line auction which will take place from May 6 to May 19. There will be a Virtual Run on-line from 6/1/23 to 6/24/23, followed by the actual Fun Run on Saturday 6/24/23.

**Next Council Meeting:** Wednesday, May 10th at 7 pm.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm.



Camden Yehle, President Date 7/24/23



Patricia Fisher, Secretary Date