

North Lakes Community Council Membership Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2025 – 7 pm

Website: <https://www.nlakes.cc>

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Boys & Girls Club Bogard

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Rod Hanson. Rod Hanson welcomed everyone. Board members introduced themselves. Quorum verified as 5/5 board members and more than 10% of council members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Franklin Conaway.

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

There were no recommended revisions and the agenda was approved unanimously.

3. PRIOR MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Two corrections were identified. Dates were corrected in the first sentences of items #3 and #4. There were no further recommended revisions and the minutes were therefore approved unanimously.

4. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION #1

Rod reminded everyone that this section was for individuals to bring forward any topics that are not already on tonight's agenda. Participants are limited to 3 minutes each. There will be another opportunity for audience participation near the end of the meeting. The following individuals spoke:

- Father Randy Hillman announced a PSA that the borough has introduced two new systems to book campsites and trailheads.
- Mark Masteller let the council members know that he is running for reelection for the MEA board.
- Maxwell Sumner from the borough assembly wanted to reach out and introduce himself. He was appointed to take Rob Yundt's vacated seat.

5. CORRESPONDENCE & ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Rod Hanson reviewed the March 27, 2025 Correspondence & Activity Summary report. He drew specific attention to the following items in the report:

- Items #1 and #2. Engstrom to Trunk Road Connector Project. He summarized the public open house that the MSB held yesterday evening. He also pointed out the availability of more detail that the NLCC has distributed to our subscribers and residents. The public review process has started and the NLCC Board will draft and submit a Resolution in the coming weeks. The resolution will be consistent with the positions we have previously taken and will encourage a decision-making process that considers cost, schedule, and recommended sequencing of new road projects in the area. Rod asked if there were any additional questions or recommended input to the NLCC resolution. Randy Hillman moved that the Board be authorized to finalize a resolution and send it out. Motion seconded by Colleen Vague. No objections. Approved unanimously
- Items #4, #8, #12, and #15 and #16 will be covered by other specific agenda items later tonight.

6. OFFICER / COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. President's Report - R. Hanson had no further report.
- b. Treasurer's Report - Jolleen Coleman summarized the balance sheet and budget report as of 2/28/25.
- c. Finance Committee - No meeting. No report.
- d. Bylaws Committee - No meeting. No report.
- e. Nomination Committee - No meeting. No report.
- f. Road & Traffic Safety Committee - R. Greenberg reviewed minutes of the March 16th committee meeting. A copy of the draft minutes is in the packet. This active committee would welcome additional participation!
- g. North Lakes Comprehensive Plan Committee - No meeting. No report.

7. GUEST PRESENTATIONS

- a. Set Free Alaska- Philip Licht, founder of Set Free Alaska, introduced their mission and vision. Set Free Alaska has services for children and family, addiction services, inpatient and outpatient care and counseling.

- b. Wolf Lake - State of Alaska DNR proposed land disposal surrounding Wolf Lake was presented by Jess Barbeau. Feedback was given by many community council members. The vast majority of comments were in opposition to a residential subdivision. They were in support of the property being a well managed park. NLCC will summarize feedback and continue as a communication link for the process as it goes forward. The NLCC will also reach out to the Fishhook Community Council. There will be future opportunities for public input as the State of Alaska project moves forward.

8. STATE & BOROUGH OFFICIALS - UPDATES

- Sharon Johnson had nothing to report from Juneau officials.
- Assemblyman Sumner reported that he issued an ordinance for a homeless shelter permit. He is also putting forth an ordinance for a property tax cap. He expressed appreciation for the level of public engagement in the NLCC.

9. ONGOING / UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Waterbody Setback Advisory Board Update. Rod Hanson summarized the current status of the advisory board and the next steps under consideration by the Borough. He encouraged everyone to visit our website for more detail.
- b. Community Cleanup - Williwaw Property. Franklin Conaway indicated that if the community could provide a dumpster, the residents would help to clean it up. The residents also expressed a desire to remove the abandoned vehicles.
- c. Radar Speed Signs. Josh Luetzinger and Rod Hanson reported that the signs have been deployed and gathering data on Charley Drive and Green Forest Drive. A report of the results will be available at the April meeting. Signs will be re-deployed to Engstrom and Lakeview roads in early April.
- d. Welcome Signs. Josh Leutzinger provided an update on the status of permitting and preparing for sign installations. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Josh directly if you are able to assist.
- e. Grant Application Reviews. NLCC has received several grant applications. The deadline for application submission is 3/31/24. The Finance Committee will meet on April 17th to score the applications and make recommendations for approval. Approval by the Board will be on our April 24th NLCC Monthly Meeting Agenda.
- f. NLCC Response to Final CAMP report. A copy of the final letter is available through the link provided.
- g. NLCC Response to Alaska STIP Projects Review. A copy of the final letter is available through the link provided.
- h. 2025 Volunteer Opportunities. Rod Hanson reminded everyone that we are always very appreciative of those who step forward and volunteer to help on subjects of interest. A great example is that Mark Saddler recently joined the Road & Traffic Safety Committee.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Mat-Su Transit Presentation given by Borough transportation coordinators, Rebecca Skjothaug and Bianca Zibrat about upcoming Valley Transit funding changes. Rachel Greenberg presented a resolution to support the transit program at the highest level possible. Father Randy Hillman moved to approve the resolution and R. Greenberg seconded it. Was approved unanimously.
- b. NLCC Outreach Strategy - Engstrom to Trunk Road Connector Project. Rod Hanson explained that, in addition to the Resolution discussed early tonight, he is considering specific outreach to the Havemeister and Kircher families to see if they would proactively provide written feedback indicating their willingness to negotiate a fair ROW acquisition for the Southern Route. He also plans to reach out to the owner of Central Gravel Products to see if he would be interested in providing written input to the Project team about his willingness to construct the gravel road base for the project.

11. ADDITIONAL AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

- John Miller recommended the NLCC reach out to the Fishhook Community Council to see where they stand. Rod Hanson agreed.
- Randy Hillman stated that he believes there needs to be a place for a park for children in the Wolf Lake area.
- Louie Callandry suggested that we support the Wolf Lake State property be separated into park lands and some public lands.
- Josh Leutzinger stated that online participants (zoom call) need to be better included in meetings.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- C. Vague suggested we contact the borough for cleanup day bags.
- R. Hanson assured everyone that we would strive to do a better job of attending to zoom participants as we manage future meetings.

13. ADJOURN - C. Vague earlier moved to extend the meeting to 9:15. N. Smith seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Signed by: _____ Date Signed: _____

Attested by: _____ Date Signed: _____