

McCarthy Area Council Meeting Minutes March 29, 2012, Tony Zak House

Members present: Ashley Dale, Trig Trigiano, Stephens Harper, Jeannie Miller, Dee Frady, Terry Frady, Pete Machado, Stacie Miller, Chris Chester, Natalie Bay, Kelly Bay, Jurgen Ogrodnik, Mark Vail, Tamara Harper

Others present: Keith Rowland, Laurie Rowland, Lynn Grams, Neil Darish, Michael Larson, Leath Kramer, John McGrath, Jon Colson, Jason Lobo, Bruce Rogers, Fred Dure

President Mark Vail opened the meeting at 11:30am with a quorum of 9 members present. A voice recorder was used to record the meeting.

Thank you to Don Welty for being the champion of the trail groomer project! It is now located at Tony Zak's, for all the community to use; locals report it works well.

Proposal for \$11,750 for improvements on Nizina Road—Fred Dure

Fred explained that the project targets spot improvements along the Nizina Road from 5-mile creek to where the lower road cuts off 8.5 miles out. The road is heavily potholed, washed out and has degraded from increased use. Road improvement would allow more comfortable passage for local road users, park visitors, mountain bikers, miners, and visitors to the new zipline business in the Nizina area. A suggestion was made to include the stretch of road beyond mile 8.5, all the way to the river, including the steep area prone to erosion.

Motion made to expand the scope of the project to include the road all the way to Nizina River flats. Motion seconded and passed. This change will be reflected in the final proposal.

The State DOT plans brushwork along the Nizina Road this summer, but we don't know about roadwork. Suggestion was made to ask DOT if they could do any of the improvements outlined in the proposal.

Voting will occur at the next meeting, April 26th.

See attached proposal: DureNizRdproposal.doc

NPS Fire Management Update—James Sullivan

An NPS crew will burn the piles from the firebreak cut/thinning project last summer in the University subdivision during the 1st, 3rd and 4th weeks of April.

James described proposed changes in NPS fire management strategy in 2 areas: Bremner and south of the Nizina River. Bremner Historic District will be changed from limited protection to full protection. South of the Nizina River will be changed from full protection to limited protection. This gives the NPS the option to allow some natural fires in the area to burn, in order to create natural firebreaks and thin out fire fuels. This change does not mean they would not fight fires in the area, but would allow them more flexibility depending on time of year, weather conditions, etc. These changes will not occur until at least next year.

Suggestions were made to make sure the Nizina subdivision is under critical protection and that areas south of the Nizina River where narrow canyons exist should be full protection, to help prevent fires from jumping the river. James will make these suggested changes. Permits are available to private property owners who border NPS parkland to remove firefuel/brush on the public land along the boundary. Contact Stephens Harper, 554-1144.

Contact James Sullivan for info. on NPS fire management in the area: James.Sullivan@nps.gov

KMVFD Request for Funds Reallocation and Funding Proposals—Chris Chester

A KMVFD project was approved in 2009, allocating \$6,000 towards water pumps, a well-pump (for the well at Tony's), shed construction for a well house, and a generator. The generator is the only thing that has been purchased (\$1000); \$5,000 remains unspent. The KMVFD bought a used truck this winter that will replace the state-owned truck they use in the summers. Since they own this vehicle, they can make more money when they are hired by the State. They are requesting that the \$5,000 be used to reimburse them for the truck purchase, in place of the original proposal. Motion made to reallocate \$5,000 to the purchase of the truck for KMVFD. Motion seconded and passed.

Proposal for \$4,840 to equip the KMVFD truck for firefighting: The “new” fire truck needs a tank, pump and other equipment to make it operational. They are requesting \$4,840 in equipment/labor to outfit the truck.

Proposal for \$5,000 to pay part of remaining balance to Rowcon for dirtwork at new KMVFD site: KMVFD's bill for Rowcon's work last fall on their new site was \$22,000. They have paid \$12,000 so far on this bill (including \$4,000 from their MAC grant), leaving them with \$10,000 balance. This money would help them pay off this debt.

Proposal for \$5,000 to purchase equipment for the community ambulance: Equipment and supplies are needed to make the ambulance functional in life-threatening situations and to help them gain licensure and additional funding from the state. This money would help them acquire some of a list of necessary equipment for basic life support services.

Please see attached funding proposals for all above projects. Voting will occur at the next meeting, April 26th. Members who will not be present at the meeting may send either their proxy appointments or vote designations for each proposal to the secretary: mccarthyareacouncil.secretary@gmail.com. Proxies MUST be received before the April 26th meeting. Proxy voting procedure from our bylaws:

A voting member may vote by proxy. If a voting member wishes to vote by proxy, the member must file with the Secretary of the corporation either a signed and dated notice appointing the proxy or send an email appointing a proxy for the meeting or designating their vote. This notice must be received by the Secretary 24 hours prior to the meeting for which the proxy is appointed. Only proxies received 24 hours prior to the meeting are guaranteed to be counted.

State of AK FY 2013 Community Revenue Sharing Program Grant Application

The application for our 2013 grant of \$33,475 was completed, with input from the membership. We proposed to use \$5,000 for EMS services, \$5,000 for water projects, \$15,000 for the fire department, and \$8,000 for road maintenance. These are not binding and the money may be used for any project that is proposed and approved by the voting membership. The treasurer will send in the application this month, with payment expected in the fall.

Treasurer's Report—Tamara Harper

Savings account: \$90,037

Checking account: \$1,550

Financial activity over the winter:

Debits:

To museum for remaining part of their facilities improvement grant: \$570.40
Outhouse cleaning salary to Christine Johnson/Tamara Harper: \$1,780
Propane tank fill at Tony Zak's, to Kenyon services: \$100
Secretary salary 2011, to Tamara Harper: \$1,900
Community snow groomer payment, to Corey Roche: \$1,400
Outhouse pumping, to Copper Basin Sanitation: \$404.50
Oxygen tanks for ambulance, to PMI medical supply: \$1,529.04
Office/outhouse supplies: \$80.69
Bank service charges: \$20.52

Credits:

2012 dues: \$520
State of AK Community Economic Stimulus Grant: \$1,592.75
Water filter sale: \$338.75
State of AK Community Revenue Sharing additional payment: \$11,184
Savings account interest: \$79.60

Community Revenue Sharing Grant Program:

Amount received from the State of AK, since 2008, for community project funding: \$177,707
Amount allocated or spent so far: \$102,890
Amount remaining in this fund: \$74,817
Amount in proposals to be voted on in April: \$26,590
Amount we expect to receive for FY 2013: \$33,475

See attached spreadsheet showing specific project expenditures/accounting: MACgrant\$.xls

NPS/community planning efforts, incl. the Kennecott Operations Plan (KOP)—Bruce Rogers

NPS and the community worked on the KOP last summer/fall. It is part of an Environmental Assessment that Bruce is currently working on. A draft version of the EA will be out this summer for public review.

Community/NPS workshops are planned for this summer to collaborate on "light touch" principles in Kennecott and the shuttle bus/parking situation in Kennecott. Elizabeth Schafer will help with these meetings; dates will be announced.

The KOP discusses a water system in Kennecott for fire suppression and potable water. Initial planning/design/engineering is occurring and various alternatives are being considered. A Value Analysis of water system ideas/concepts occurred recently, with input from locals. Due to this collaboration, NPS will drill exploratory wells this summer to see if ground water is a viable option instead of creek/surface water. Funding for this water project has been delayed, so 2014 is the earliest work would start.

Mark Vail thanked the NPS for including locals in this planning process and for collaborating with Friends of Kennecott, community members, etc.

Starting July 10th, 2012, the Mill Building will be closed to tours while stabilization work occurs. It will be closed for the rest of the 2012 season. Tours of the townsite and other buildings will be offered instead. Twin Peaks contractors will be stabilizing between levels 3-7 of the Mill Bldg, and NPS blasting cap mitigation on the north side of the Mill will start August 1st.

Starting June 1st, work will begin on the south side of the Mill, which may affect access to the General Manager's Office. The leaching plant will be closed all season for foundation work. The power plant's stacks and boilers will be painted; a large crane will be used for this work.

A meeting specifically to inform the community about NPS plans in Kennecott this summer will be held in late May, date will be announced.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trig Trigiano announced that he and Rick Kenyon will be replacing the mailshack heater with a new vented radiant propane heater with tank outside. Thanks for their efforts!

Neil Darish announced that KCHU radio has donated the equipment for a radio studio that's here in MXY. If anyone would like to host a radio program on KCHU, contact Neil, 554-4402 or Danny Sparrel at KCHU, gm@kchu.org.

Jason Lobo is interested in leasing DNR land along the Nizina Road for community agricultural use. If you would like to collaborate with him on this project, contact Jason Lobo, **554-1155**.

Thanks to Jason Lobo for shoveling snow around Tony Zak's!

Next meeting, Thursday, April 26th, 11:30 at Tony's.

President Mark Vail adjourned the meeting at 1:45pm.
Minutes taken by Tamara Harper, Recording Secretary.

McCarthy Area Council Meeting Minutes April 26th, 2012, Tony Zak House

Members present: Trig Trigiano, Keith Rowland, Mike Larson, Natalie Bay, Jeannie Miller, Dee Frady, Terry Frady, Pete Machado, Stacie Miller, Barbara Rice, John Rice, Matt Smith, Meghan Seifert, Stephens Harper, Ashley Dale, Mark Vail, Tamara Harper

Others present: Rick Jurick, Jason Lobo, Rick Obernesser-NPS, Norah Martinez-NPS, Jon Colson-NPS, James Savage-NPS, Erica Edmonds-NPS, Jason Hoke-Copper Valley Development Association, Pete Peschange-CVDA, James Sullivan-NPS

President Mark Vail opened the meeting at 11:30 with a quorum of 9 members present. A voice recorder was used to record the meeting.

Voting on 3 KMVFD funding proposals:

\$4,840: Outfitting/supplies for the new KMVFD fire truck

\$5,000: Paying some of remaining Rowcon bill for site work last year

\$5,000: Ambulance supplies/equipment

Voting occurred by secret ballot and all votes were tallied, including proxies.

All 3 proposals passed.

We will vote on the Nizina Roadwork project proposal, for \$11,750, at the May 31st meeting. See proposal attached with minutes (DureNizRdproposal.doc).

Contact Fred Dure: Frederick.dure@starband.net

NPS Fire Management Update-James Sullivan

The NPS crew has finished burning piles of brush for the season; about ¼ of the piles have been burned. Burning will start again in the fall after Sept. 15th. Thanks to the NPS for all their work fire-wising our community.

Solar Energy System Class Idea

Marv from Renewable Energy Systems in Anchorage has offered to come to MXY to give a class on solar energy systems. If you have ideas of topics you would like covered, please contact Kelly Bay. The class would likely be in early June. Details will follow.

Kelly Bay: flywma@starband.net

Water Source at Tony Zak's

An 80-foot well was drilled at Tony Zak's few years ago, but has not yet been outfitted with a pump. Stacie Miller and Pete Machado have found a hand/solar pump that could allow locals and visitors to access this source of potable water, with very little infrastructure or maintenance. This pump produces 5 gallons of water/minute and costs about \$3,000 (solar panels would be additional). We have \$6,500 left in an Aquifer Study Fund from years ago that can go towards water-related projects.

Mark Vail suggested that we use the Aquifer Fund money towards purchasing this combination hand/solar pump for community use. The membership approved by voice vote. Stacie will bring more information to the May meeting. Thank you, Pete and Stacie, for working on this!

DOT work on MXY Road

DOT will be doing lots of work on the MXY road this summer. Audrey Scott and Taylor Strobe (project engineer) will be the main points of contact for information. Harris Sand and Gravel is the main sub-contractor. Signage/flaggers/pilot cars will be used this summer along the road, with possible vehicle delays of up to 20 minutes. DOT and the contractors will have an office at Mile 26/Chokosna. A crushing site will be at Mile 44/Lakina. They will be working on Miles 33-53 earlier in the summer and Miles 3-9 later in the season. Completion date is Oct. 15th.

Keith Rowland shared an update from John Hoffman/DOT about the Nizina Road. Brushing the road this summer is a possibility, but not a certainty; he would like community support for the project and/or ideas about what we want to see for the Nizina Road. A suggestion was made that University lot-owners write a letter to DOT expressing their wishes. Also, any roadwork that we may choose to do, such as Fred Dure's proposal work, requires DOT permits; Keith has filed the application in case of future work.

Treasurer's Report—Tamara Harper

Savings: \$83,734.52

Checking: \$3,110

Last month's activity: \$5,000—KMVFD fire truck purchase
\$18—stamps
\$150—dues deposit

Introduction of Rick Obernesser, Superintendent of the Park

Rick started as WRST Superintendent in November and he joined us for his first MAC meeting. He comes most recently from Wash. DC, but has also served in 7 other NPS units over his 34-year career. We welcome Rick to visit anytime and come to any/all MAC meetings.

See Rick's letter to our community regarding NPS plans for the summer: Sup_letter.doc

Copper Valley Development Association—Jason Hoke, Director

The CVDA can help us with community planning and advocate for state and federal funding. They can help us create a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document that outlines an economic/development vision for the future. He would also like to talk with the community about energy development. He will come to the May meeting to give a presentation on the CVDA and how we might work with them on economic and energy issues.

Contact Jason Hoke: jhoke@coppervalley.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

McCarthy-Kennicott Historical Museum announces its Grand Opening for the season--Monday, May 28th of Memorial Day Weekend. They will host an Open House from 2-7; come and check out the new improvements and join/renew your membership!

Agenda for May 31st meeting:

Vote on Fred Dure's Nizina Roadwork proposal for funding, \$11,750.

Funding proposal for MXY-Kenn Museum deck/railing repair

Copper Valley Development Assoc. presentation

Solar energy system class ideas/discussion

Tony Zak water pump update/information

President Mark Vail adjourned the meeting at 12:34pm.

Minutes taken by Tamara Harper, Recording Secretary.

McCarthy Area Council Meeting Minutes May 31st, 2012, Tony Zak House

Members present: Keith Rowland, Laurie Rowland, Rob Wesson, Natalie Bay, Trig Trigiano, Tom Golden, Mary Kaye Golden, Jason Brooks, Laura Brooks, John Adams, Jared Steyaert, Christine Johnson, Sunny Cook, Fred Dure, Eric Yould, Doreen Sullivan, John Rice, Barbara Rice, Thea Agnew Bembem, Gaia Marrs, Elizabeth Schafer, Wayne Marrs, Bill Morris, Monte, Paul Hanis, Chris Chester, Stephens Harper, Mark Vail, Tamara Harper.

Others present: Sandra Wagner-CVDA, Luke Hodgson-NPS, Jon Colson-NPS, Daniel Morrison, Carol Morrison, Carrie Hale-DOF, Mike Trimmer-DOF, Norah Martinez-NPS, Rick Obernesser-NPS, Sarah Davies, Jason Lobo.

President Mark Vail opened the meeting at 11:45am with a quorum of 9 members present. A voice recorder was used to record the meeting.

Treasurer's Report—Tamara Harper

Checking account: \$2,667.13

Savings account: \$83,748.89

May activity: \$180 debit—David Rowland, firewood for Tony Zak's
\$257.73—toilet paper for outhouses

Revenue-sharing grant money update:

Total granted to MAC: \$177,707

Total allocated for projects: \$117,730

Total spent so far: \$98,050

Total remaining in fund: \$59,974

Amount we expect to receive for 2013: \$33,475

Nizina Road Improvement Proposal for Funding—Fred Dure

Fred Dure explained his road improvement project. The bid for work is \$17,050 and they have \$5,800 donated from residents and users. They are asking MAC for the remaining \$11,250.

Discussion followed: seasonal use/heavy equipment causes most of the road damage, much of it from mining equipment going to Dan Creek, the suggestion of a fund for future improvements paid for by users, DOT's possible maintenance (or lack thereof) of the Nizina Road in the future.

Motion to vote on \$11,250 for Nizina Road project funding. Motion seconded and passed.

Vote was held by secret ballot. Proposal passed: 26 Yes, 8 No, 2 abstentions. Proxy votes were included.

Nizina Road brushing by DOT—Keith Rowland

Keith explained that DOT is considering brushing the Nizina Road, but they would like support from the community. He read a draft letter of support from MAC, and offered to be the contact person between DOT and the community for this project. Discussion followed: we need a contact person between DOT and MAC for all projects, the need for DOT to inform us of projects before they happen, how we might influence future projects (input on scope of work, etc), why is DOT brushing the roadside, yet not maintaining the road surface? Is brushing the first step toward maintenance perhaps? Rob Wesson said the University subdivision would discuss this at their July meeting and get a better sense of how much support exists for brushing.

Motion to have Keith gather more information from DOT about Nizina Road brushing project and possible future maintenance, get a consensus from Univ. and Nizina subdivision lot-owners, and defer the vote on the DOT letter of support until July. Motion seconded and passed.

Museum Deck Repair Funding Proposal—John Rice

John explained the snow had crushed the museum deck this winter and the museum board is asking MAC for \$975 for its repair. John Adams, who built the deck, will do the work, along with volunteer labor from museum staff/board.

Motion to waive the one-month waiting period on this proposal and vote today. Motion seconded and passed.

Motion to vote on \$975 for museum deck repair proposal. Motion seconded and passed.

Tony Zak House foundation restoration work

The MAC board is seeking evaluations of the condition of both the foundation and roof of Tony's. This is the first step towards possibly restoring the community center and the board may call for bids on the work in the future, depending on the outcome of these evaluations. We would like evaluations of whether either the roof and/or foundation needs repair or replacement and what a general scope of work might be. Please submit these opinions to the MAC board by June 28th, either in Box #31 or by email to: mccarthyareacouncil.secretary@gmail.com

Alternative energy systems workshop, Sat, June 23rd—Natalie Bay

Marv from Renewable Energy Systems in Anchorage will be in McCarthy June 23-24th for a workshop on solar energy system set-up and use. The workshop will be at Wrangell Mountains Center on Sat, June 23rd and Marv will be available to visit homes and advise/answer questions on Sunday, June 24th. If you have questions/topics you would like him to cover specifically, let Natalie Bay or Jeremy Pataky know ahead of time. Times and schedule will be announced.

Contact: nbay@starband.net or Jeremy@wrangells.org

Renewable Energy Systems: 907-561-7941, info@renewableenergysys.com

Tony Zak Community Center water source/well pump update—Mark Vail

In order to have a potable water source for public use, there are many DEC regulations to follow, making this a more complicated process than originally thought. An engineer must be hired to proceed with design and paperwork and monthly testing must be done, which Neil Darish has offered to help with. But it is important to have another source of public water, as Clear Creek is quite vulnerable.

Mark and Stacie Miller have found a very efficient, modern handpump that pumps 5 gallons a minute that would be simple and easy to use and maintain. They continue to make progress on this project, thank you!!

Copper Valley Development Association—Sandy Wagner and Jason Hoke

Sandy and Jason are writing a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document for 22 communities in this region. McCarthy-Kennecott will be included if we create a community plan, with goals in various areas and strategies/projects to attain those goals. This document may help us gain funding for projects in the future, as state money may be allocated according to communities' plans in this document.

Motion to create a small group to write a community plan and list of projects for the CEDS document, which will be voted on by MAC at the next meeting. Motion seconded and passed. This group will work on a community plan in the next month, mostly comprised of projects that have been previously discussed in the MAC forum or already have community and/or local non-profit support. The group will share the results of their efforts at the June meeting and get feedback from the MAC membership. We will then submit our ideas to CVDA for inclusion in the final document in July.

Forestry Update—Mike Trimmer, DNR Forestry

DNR Forestry completed the Community Wildfire Protection Plan for MXY-Kenn last year. Mike Trimmer wrote and received a Wildland Urban Interface grant to support the projects that comprise that plan. The focus of this grant is to help private property owners make their property

and structures fire-wise and safer. To this end, Forestry folks will do firewise work on private property in cooperation with landowners, on a 50/50 cost-share basis. Forestry will conduct assessments of property and determine work to be done. Work will be done within the 100-foot area around structures.

Landowners then have 3 options to choose from:

- 1) do the work themselves and get reimbursed 50% of estimated cost of the work
- 2) a local contractor does the work, with landowner assistance, as their 50% in-kind match
- 3) a local contractor does the work and the landowner matches the payment to the contractor by DOF

Sign-up sheets are being distributed in mailboxes and are attached to the minutes:
firewise_signup.doc

Sheets should be returned to dropbox in mailshack and DOF will contact you to schedule an assessment. Work should begin in July.

Contact: mike.trimmer@alaska.gov
Chris Chester 554-2102

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Jason Brooks announced that he plans to have local clinics in our community. He'll be helping Crossroads with their last clinic in the area this month and he hopes to offer some medical services here in the future. He currently has a family practice in Palmer.

Thank you Dr. Brooks!

Contact: Palmer Family Medicine, 907-746-2345

SLOW DOWN in TOWN!! It's summer season and things are getting busy, PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY.

An effort is underway to name a glacier in the Kennicott Valley after Ed LaChapelle, a friend and community member who lived here for years and died 5 years ago. Bill Morris will keep us informed of this process, which may include a letter-writing campaign of support in the future.

Trig and Rick Kenyon will be installing a new heater in the mailshack sometime this summer.

Emergency medical training for the whole community will be on Friday, June 8th, 3-7pm, in the Kennecott Rec. Hall. Dr. Jennifer Dow, the medical director for the park and local guides services, will be instructing. EVERYONE WELCOME! Thanks, Jen Dow, for your efforts in our community!

YARD SALE AND SEEDLING SWAP: June 16TH, 10-2, at Tony Zak's. Bring all your treasures and extra seedlings to sell/trade/give away; everyone responsible for their own stuff.

President Mark Vail adjourned the meeting at 1:50pm.
Minutes taken by Tamara Harper, Recording Secretary.

McCarthy Area Council Meeting Minutes June 28th, 2012, Tony Zak House

Members present: Bill Morris, Trig Trigiano, Jared Steyaert, John Rice, Christine Johnson, Gaia Marrs, Mark Vail, Anne Dure, Fred Dure, Mike Loso, Natalie Bay, Eli Potter, Tom Golden, Bob Cook, Elizabeth Schafer, Keith Rowland, Eric Yould, Jeremy Pataky, Stephens Harper, Wayne Marrs, Tamara Harper

Others present: Margot Higgins, Aryle Butler, Norah Martinez-NPS, Erica Edmonds-NPS, Philipp Sturm, Jason Lobo, Carrie Hale-DNR, Mike Trimmer-AK DNR, DOF, David Huppert-Filmmaker, Sarah Andrews

President Mark Vail opened the meeting at 11:45am with a quorum of 9 members present. A voice recorder was used to record the meeting.

Motion was made to approve the May minutes as read. Motion seconded and passed.

Guest filmmakers from NYC asked the council if they could film the meeting. No one objected. The entire meeting was filmed.

Museum Deck Repair Report—John Rice

At the last meeting, the museum received \$975 to repair their deck damaged by snow this winter. John Adams was hired and finished the work in 2 weeks. He strengthened the deck and the rails are now removable, to help avoid further damage. The museum is now fully functional again. Thanks, John, for a speedy repair!

Nizina Road Brushing and DOT Update

We are still discussing whether/how we want the Nizina Road brushed by DOT. We could request brushing with certain parameters, depending on community consensus. The University subdivision will meet July 1st to discuss/vote; discussion will continue at the July MAC meeting and the letter to DOT regarding Nizina Rd. brushing will be reconsidered and/or amended then.

Keith Rowland reported that DOT plans to remove rails, ditch and rebrush along the road between MXY and Kennecott and possibly add gravel surfacing. They plan to brush the Nizina Road if there is community support, but have no plans to do any other maintenance on Niz. Road. MAC will be writing a letter to DOT requesting better information about upcoming projects before they start. Keith Rowland will continue to be our contact person with DOT for the Nizina Road brushing project, if it happens.

DOT sent this update on MXY road projects:

Our McCarthy Road Upgrades Project with Harris Sand & Gravel is not expected to start up until the week of July 9, 2012. At that time, Tyler Straub, Project Engineer will be on site: cell # 907-590-8804.

Another project with R&M and Twin Peaks is currently on site at various locations.
On site contacts: Josh Crowe: 907-259-3024, Matt Sommer: 907-259-3025

Additional Contacts: Project Manager in Fairbanks, Caroline Maniaci: 907-451-5461
Manager for the R & M / Twin Peaks Project is Guan Griffin: 907-451-5087.

Thank you,
Audrey J Scott, DOT

Tony Zak restoration/well pump update

We are still taking written assessments of what needs to be done to Tony's to keep the building in good shape for the future. We hope to coordinate with the Blackburn Heritage Foundation, who owns the building, to refurbish it. Trig Trigiano volunteered to be a liaison between the MAC board and the Blackburn Foundation—THANK YOU!!

The water pump installation has to be overseen by a state-certified, paid engineer in order to have a public potable water source. President Vail requested that we use the money left in the aquifer fund (\$6,500) to hire a certified hydrologist to proceed with the next steps; request was approved.

CVDA Planning document update—Tamara Harper

A small group met and came up with some general planning goals for our community to be included in a Copper Basin-wide planning document that could possibly help us gain funding in the future to pursue these goals. If we receive funding for any of these projects, we will need further community input/participation.

Jason Lobo reported that he attended the Copper Basin meeting and participated in creating basin-wide planning goals, such as retaining our rural lifestyles with no large-scale development.

See attachment: CVDAplanning.doc

EMS Services Update

A letter was read from Jacob Schultz, who is organizing our community EMS team/program. We hope to soon have a community phone for emergency response and we'll be starting to spend the \$5,000 allocated to EMS supplies previously on ambulance supplies/equipment. Volunteers will be needed in the future as we set up this EMS service in our community, please contact Jacob.

Thanks Jacob, for your time and effort!

Contact: Jacob Schultz, mxyems@gmail.com

See attachment: EMS_letter.doc

Dept. of Forestry Update—Mike Trimmer

DOF is administering a grant-funded project to reduce fire fuels around structures in our community. They will soon be starting assessments of properties and then facilitating the work (by owners or by contractors) to firewise around structures. They can also do work on roads, property lines and right-of-ways in the area; a committee was formed to prioritize areas in need of work.

Contact Jared Steyaert about this committee: jared@kennicottguides.com

Contact Carrie Hale, DOF, about the program: dnr.dof.vcra@alaska.gov

MXY-Kenn Volunteer Fire Dept. Update—Chris Chester

The VFD has moved some of their stuff to their new land and is conducting trainings there now, every Wed. evening. The new fire truck, purchased with MAC funds, is operational and they have a 6,000 gallon tank there as well. Thanks, everyone, for your VFD efforts!

Contact Chris Chester, 554-2102

Treasurer's Report—Tamara Harper

Savings: \$78,763.12

Checking: \$1,616.64

Last month's activity:

\$160 dues deposit

\$142.07 community oxygen tanks refill

\$975 museum deck repair to John Adams (revenue-sharing grant \$)

\$195.43 cleaning supplies for Tony's, outhouses, mailshack

\$35.98 gallon of stain for museum outhouse

\$4.08 bank service charge

\$5,000 KMVFD site work to Rowcon Services (revenue-sharing grant \$)

Revenue-sharing grant funds:

\$177,707 received from state since 2008; \$127,455 spent/allocated = 72%

Over the last 4 years, outside of revenue-sharing money, MAC spent \$15,961 on operating expenses and took in \$3,164, mostly in dues/fundraising. We are spending about 5 times what we earn, when we don't consider the revenue-sharing funds.

Motion to set aside \$15,000 from revenue-sharing funds now and in each coming year, set aside \$7,500 from revenue-sharing funds for operating expenses. Motion seconded and passed.

The idea of how MAC could create more revenue-earning opportunities to increase income?

Revenue-sharing grant guidelines

The MAC board came up with some new guidelines for requesting state revenue-sharing funds for community projects. Proposals MUST now show at least a 30% match, either in money, labor or materials. Showing community support for a project is of utmost importance and matching requested funding with contributed funds/labor are now crucial for proposal approval.

There will be a cap on each proposal amount, equal to 20% of that year's revenue-sharing grant amount, minus the \$7,500 taken for operating expenses. For 2012, MAC received \$44,691. After \$15,000 is taken out for operating expenses (from motion above), \$29,691 remains. 20% is \$5,938, which is the most any single proposal can request in 2012. This will change every year, depending on how much we receive from the state. These amended guidelines are an attempt to increase community participation in projects and ensure funds will be available in the future. Guidelines will be sent out when they are finalized.

MAC letter to Copper Valley Telecom re: solar panels at MXY tower site

A letter was read that will be sent to CVT encouraging them to install solar panels at the tower site in MXY, as an addition to the generator they already use for power.

See attachment: CVTletter.doc

Tony Zak Use Guidelines

A committee is creating guidelines for the use of our community center (Tony's). Guidelines will be presented at the next meeting for council approval. A calendar will be posted to prevent scheduling conflicts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Elizabeth Schafer reminded folks that she emailed the minutes of the NPS's "Light Touch in Kennebec" planning meeting held earlier this summer. If you didn't get them, let her know.

Contact Elizabeth Schafer: Elizabeth_schafer@nps.gov; 907-960-1014

Margot Higgins volunteered to organize planning documents related to McCarthy for our future use/reference. This will be a great benefit to any planning efforts in the future, so thank you Margot!!

President Mark Vail adjourned the meeting at 1:45pm.
Minutes taken by Tamara Harper, Recording Secretary.

McCarthy Area Council Meeting Minutes July 26th, 2012, Tony Zak House

Members present: Rob Wesson, Kelly Bay, Trig Trigiano, Maria Shell, Ben Shaine, Keith Rowland, Fred Dure, Kenny Smith, Lyn Plomaritis, Elizabeth Schafer, John Rice, Jeremy Pataky, Sally Gibert, Mike Loso, Christine Johnson, Mark Vail, Stephens Harper, Tamara Harper

Others present: Jacob Shultz, Jonny ?, Philip Sturm, Hannah Rowland, Mark Keogh-NPS, Erica Edmonds-NPS, Dave Syren, Craig Neill, Jon Colson-NPS, Maggie Rogers-DOF, Mike Trimmer-DOF, Carrie Hale-DOF, Eleanor Jensen, Michelle Casey, Margot Higgins.

President Mark Vail called the meeting to order at 11:45am with a quorum of 9 members present. A voice recorder was used to record the meeting.

Motion was made to approve the June 2012 minutes as posted; motion seconded and passed.

EMS Update—Jacob Shultz

Jacob Shultz is taking the lead on a community EMS team. 3 phones will be donated from CVT— Thank you!! Jacob will carry one phone and other EMS responders will have phones also. These phones will be in service from early May-late Sept. The EMS number to call for emergencies is: 554-1240. The other phones will be 554-1241 and 554-1242.

He is working on insuring the ambulance and would appreciate folks who would like to be drivers. The EMS will be under the KMVFD umbrella, but will be its own entity. EMT training will be provided in August, look for a schedule at the mailshack.

The EMS email is mxyems@gmail.com; please contact Jacob with any interest/questions re: community EMS.

Well at Tony's Update—Mark Vail

We are moving ahead with getting a hand-pump installed at Tony's for public-access potable water. We are contracting with Barry Hecht, Balance Hydrology, to do the state application/paperwork that is legally necessary before installation. We hope to have the pump in next spring.

Contact Mark Vail: markatfireweed@gmail.com

Tony Zak Restoration Effort—Mark Vail

Big thanks to Matt Vial for his assessment of the building's condition, we really appreciate your efforts. Overall, the condition of the building is not bad; it needs new paint, some roof work and some spot work on the foundation. We will work with the Blackburn Heritage Foundation, who own Tony's, on future restoration projects, and possibly put them out for bid from interested community members. A suggestion was made to possibly alter the inside of the building to make it more conducive to group meetings with better visibility.

Kennecott Recreation Hall Use Update—Sally Gibert, Jeremy Pataky

Sally explained that for several years, the Wrangell Mountains Center has managed the non-NPS use of the Rec Hall, having taken over for Friends of Kennecott, who did it previously. This management ensures that the Rec. Hall will continue to be open and available for community use; the NPS does not have the capacity to manage non-NPS use of the building. The only legal way to do this is to lease it from the NPS, which is in process. In the meantime, the WMC is operating under a special-use permit from the NPS. The 3-year lease will hopefully be finalized by spring 2013.

The WMC has created a fee structure for use of the Rec. Hall, for both community events and for rentals by people who may not live here. The fees may change in the future, as use changes.

Contact Tamara Harper re: renting the Rec. Hall: rec_hall@wrangells.org
Contact Jeremy Pataky re: WMC and the Rec. Hall: jeremy@wrangells.org
See attached: Rec_Hall_fees.doc

Tony Zak Use Guidelines

The MAC board is creating a procedure and guidelines for community use of Tony Zak's. Changes include contacting the MAC secretary to schedule the event, contributing \$10 for using each of the following: generator/gas, stove/propane, woodstove/wood, removing trash and cleaning, and completing a checklist after use. A calendar will be posted at Tony's to inform everyone of the use schedule. Guidelines and calendar will go into effect in 2013. Use guidelines will be distributed when they are finalized.

Contact MAC Secretary: mccarthyareacouncil.secretary@gmail.com

Forestry: WUI Grant Update/Fire Information Outreach—Mike Trimmer, Maggie Rogers

Mike Trimmer said that Forestry folks are continuing with the assessments of properties for the Wildland Urban Interface Grant project. They are in contact with the University Subdivision about brushing along the Nizina Road. Maggie Rogers, DOF Fire Information, is looking for suggestions from us on how to proceed with fire education and outreach to both locals and visitors. Suggestion was made to change the Firewise kiosk at Mile 55 to target visitors, who probably stop there more, rather than locals. The mailshack/MAC email list are good ways to contact locals. Anyone who would like to work on fire outreach, please get in touch with Maggie.

Contact Maggie Rogers: 907-356-5511, maggie.rogers@alaska.gov

Contact Carrie Hale re: WUI grant project: dnr.doc.vcra@alaska.gov

Sweet Creek Culvert Replacement Funding Proposal—Mike Loso

Mike explained that Sweet Creek crosses under the road to Kennecott below the townsite, in his neighborhood. It's an old wooden culvert, from the mining era, and is on private property. It has been collapsing over the years and water is increasingly pooling on the uphill side. The road could be washed out if it fails and it needs to be replaced. Rowcon has given a bid of \$12,470 to replace the culvert and all the work that would require (see attached proposal and bid for more details). The road would need to be closed for about 36 hours, likely in October. Mike is submitting this proposal for community/MAC support since we all use the road to Kennecott. The new guidelines for proposals require at least a 30% match of funds/in-kind contribution and the cap for any proposal this year is \$5,938. Therefore, the proposal is for \$5,938 and the remaining \$6,532 will come from other sources. Various other sources of funding were discussed and we will vote at the August meeting.

See attached: Sweet_creek_proposal.doc

Contact Mike Loso: 907-529-9372, mloso@alaskapacific.edu

DOT communications/update/issues

MAC has been trying to establish better communications with DOT regarding projects in this area. A letter requesting such was sent in July and was read to the council (see attached DOT letter). An email was also sent to the State Historical Preservation Office regarding the possible plan to remove the historic rails from along the road between MXY and Kennecott; this letter was also read to the council (see attached SHPO letter). There is currently some confusion/frustration between the community and DOT and a lack of understanding of each other's goals/plans. The importance of our community coming to consensus about what we want to see for our roads was expressed, so that we can clearly communicate that to DOT. How can we facilitate this process? We agreed that immediate road grading is very important and we need to agree on what we want for our roads for the long-term. Mark Vail agreed to call the DOT public affairs person to express some of our concerns and seek advice on the best way to proceed. Rob Wesson, the Secretary of the University Subdivision Lot-owners Assoc., read a letter from the subdivision requesting that DOT not brush the Nizina Road through the subdivision; instead, they are exploring other ways of selectively brushing

this portion of the road. Keith Rowland will pass this on to DOT. Fred Dure reported that some Nizina residents also favored selective brushing over hydro-axing on the Nizina Road. An informal vote was taken and council members supported moving the rails further off the road to Kennecott for safety and ease of maintenance; a majority of the council present is opposed to removing the rails completely. Mark Vail will contact SHPO/DOT to relay this opinion.
See attached: DOT_letter.doc, SHPO_letter.doc

Updated Funding Proposal Guidelines

The MAC board has revised the guidelines for requesting state revenue-sharing grant money for project funding. The reasons for this are: to stretch the Revenue Sharing funds MAC receives from the State to benefit as many segments of the community as possible, to encourage as much local involvement as possible in projects that benefit the community, and to incentivize MAC members asking for MAC support to seek other funding options. The main changes are: each proposal MUST show that at least 30% of the project cost is covered by funding, labor and/or materials other than MAC funds, the cap for each proposal will be equal to 20% of the amount we received from the state that year minus \$7500 for operating expenses (this year's cap is \$5,938), and proposals must be submitted to the MAC secretary one week BEFORE the meeting at which the proposal is presented. See full guidelines attached: 2012 MAC funding proposal guidelines.doc

Treasurer's Report—Tamara Harper

Checking account: \$1,380

Savings account: \$78,776

July activity: ambulance key holder/lock \$32.58
community oxygen tanks filled \$147.52
printer ink \$51.98

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Katherine Ringsmuth, NPS Historian, would like to talk to anyone involved in aviation in the area, as part of her research on the subject.

Contact Katherine_ringsmuth@nps.gov, 907-644-3467

Fred Dure announced that Boreal Canopy Adventures is nearly completed and will open June 2013; they are hiring guides for next season and would like to have all local guides.

Contact Fred Dure: Frederick.dure@starband.net

Elizabeth Schafer suggested a community archivist position might be created to organize and understand all the plans/documents related to the area's planning efforts and be a liaison between MAC, the community and gov't agencies and be the point-of-contact for inter-communications. Would MAC consider funding such a position? A topic for further discussion....

Stephens Harper, NPS, will be issuing federal subsistence hunting permits and is requesting information about the spray-paint vandalism of the Kennecott Mill building and General Manager's office.

Contact Stephens: 907-554-1144.

President Mark Vail adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm.
Minutes taken by Tamara Harper, Recording Secretary.

McCarthy Area Council Meeting Minutes August 30, 2012, Tony Zak House

Members present: John Rice, Tom Golden, MaryKaye Golden, Trig Trigiano, Kelly Bay, Mike Loso, Gayle Gordon, John Adams, Barbara Rice, Bill Morris, Jeremy Pataky, Chris Chester, Marie Thorn, John Bosshard, Lyn Plomaritis, Stephens Harper, Mark Vail, Tamara Harper

Others present: Jacob Shultz, Melissa Blair-NPCA, Dan Talcott, Barbara Cellarius-NPS, Robbin LaVine-ADF&G, Jason Esler, Carrie Hale-DOF, John Hoffman-DOT, Neil Darish, Jason Sakalaskas-DOT, Steven Potter-DOT, Joe Donohue, Rebekah Helkenn, Rick Obernesser-NPS, Dave Syren, Bruce Rogers-NPS, Kathy Drury

President Mark Vail called the meeting to order at 11:45am, noting a quorum of 9 members present. A voice recorder was used to record the meeting.

Motion was made to approve the July 2012 minutes as posted; motion seconded and passed.

Subsistence Survey--Barbara Cellarius, NPS and Robbin LaVine, ADF&G

The NPS and ADF&G will be conducting a subsistence harvest survey in MXY-Kenn in spring 2013. They are updating data for all the resident zone communities in/around WRST NP. NPS or ADF&G personnel, along with locally hired assistants, will be conducting household surveys between Jan-April 2013.

See explanatory sheet attached: [subsistence_survey.pdf](#)

Contact Robbin LaVine: robbin.lavine@alaska.gov, 907-267-2362 or

Barbara Cellarius: barbara_cellarius@nps.gov, 907-822-7236

DOT Update—John Hoffman (Tazlina), Steve Potter (Fairbanks)

Hoffman answered questions from the community regarding road maintenance in the area. He said they have secured some funding to improve the road between MXY and Kennecott. Community members requested dust abatement in MXY and consistent summer gradings of the MXY-Kenn road. He explained that funding, in general, is tight and budgets are likely to go down in the future. Hoffman encouraged us to call our political representatives in Juneau to request more funding for road maintenance in our area. DOT does not plan to do maintenance work on the Nizina Road, but the DOF could request a permit to lightly brush the right-of-way. We emphasized that the 4 miles between Kenn-MXY is more heavily used than the MXY road and needs more maintenance/gradings. DOT was encouraged to refer to the MXY Road Scenic Corridor Plan, which outlines a vision/plan for the road, that was created by the community and the NPS a few years ago. MAC invited DOT to come each year to inform us of upcoming plans.

Another DOT engineer explained that the Chokosna pond culvert along the MXY road (mile 25) will be replaced in early October. The MXY road will be closed for approx. 2 days during the replacement. Radio announcements will inform us exactly when the closures will be.

Contact John Hoffman: 907-822-3222

EMS Update—Jacob Shultz

Thanks to Copper Valley Telecom for donating EMS phones!! Emergency number 554-1240 will be active through end of September, resuming in May.

He's working on stocking the ambulance with supplies/equipment, offering local trainings, and is looking for ambulance drivers.

NPS and community EMS folks will be meeting with other Copper Basin EMS providers mid-Sept. to coordinate EMS response on the MXY road.

Thank you so much, Jacob, for all your time and efforts!!

Contact Jacob Shultz: mxyems@gmail.com

NPS Planning Update—Bruce Rogers

The draft Kennecott Operations Plan/EA will not be ready for public review end of this summer, as originally planned, due to additions/changes from meetings/public input this summer. Bruce will incorporate these additions in the plan and hopes to have it available for public review at the end of October. He will email the MAC list when the KOP/EA is ready, with instructions on how to access the document and submit comments.

Contact Bruce Rogers: bruce_rogers@nps.gov, 907-822-7276

Treasurer's Report—Tamara Harper

Savings account: \$78,789.92 (including \$47,752 revenue-sharing grant funds)

Checking account: \$1,319.65

August expenses: \$250 toilet paper for public outhouses

\$50 CVT smartphone upgrade for community EMS

\$7 outhouse supplies

Sweet Creek Culvert proposal vote—Mike Loso

Mike reviewed the project that he proposed last month—funding for the Sweet Creek culvert replacement on the road between MXY-Kennecott. The proposal requests \$5,938 from MAC, with the remainder of the \$12,470 estimate coming from community/private donations. Before the work is done, they will try to clear the upper end of the culvert, to see if it's clogged instead of collapsed. If not, the culvert replacement would proceed. If the project costs less than the estimate, all donations and the MAC portion will be reduced by the same percentage.

Vote was taken by secret ballot and the proposal was approved: 16 yes, 2 no votes.

Tony Zak's—Mark Vail, Dan Talcott

Preliminary work continues on the well pump project at Tony's, with Barry Hecht, hydrologist, assisting with legal/administrative/engineering issues.

Starting in 2013, MAC will manage the use of Tony Zak's community center a bit more formally and collecting minimal fees to cover propane, firewood and generator use. The MAC board has come up with guidelines to use Tony's for events.

See attached: Zakuseguidelines.doc

Dan Talcott introduced himself to MAC; he's the president of the Blackburn Heritage Foundation, which owns Tony Zak's. MAC will work next year with Blackburn to maintain Tony's, including painting the building, roofing work, skirting and other minor repairs. MAC may put some of the work out for bid next year. The community expressed some concern about private, commercial signs on Tony's land and discussion followed regarding public/private use of Tony's and how Tony wanted his home to be used. Tony's is for everyone in the community to use, but the Blackburn Foundation owns it and is responsible for its maintenance.

Wildland Urban Interface Firewise Grant Project—Carrie Hale, DOF

Dept. of Forestry has been assessing private properties and roadways for the firewise grant project. Contact Carrie if you would like your property assessed; reimbursement and/or labor is available to do clearing and fuels reduction on private properties and rights-of-way. They are currently figuring what to do on which roads, in consultation with people living along/around those roads. They will work with DOT to obtain permits and then hire contractors or qualified locals to do the work. Currently, she has received requests to do fuels reduction/brushing along the Fireweed Subdivision Road, J Road, Silvermine Road, upper Kennecott Road, and Nizina Road. Some of this work may happen this fall, but most of it will start next spring.
Contact Carrie Hale: dnr.doc.vcra@alaska.gov, 907-822-5534

Election of 2013 MAC Officers/Board

We elected the following officers and board members for next year:

President: Mark Vail

Vice President: Elizabeth Shafer

Secretary/Treasurer: Tamara Harper

Board members:

Jared Steyaert

John Montepare

Trig Trigiano

John Rice

Bill Morris

Natalie Bay

Christine Johnson

Jason Lobo

Announcements:

Contact Stephens Harper for federal subsistence hunting permits. 907-554-1144

The NPS is putting up orientation/land status signs at the footbridge, near the museum and at the mailshack. Contact Danny Rosenkrans if you have any questions regarding content, etc.

danny_rosenkrans@nps.gov

President Mark Vail adjourned the meeting at 2:15pm.

Minutes taken by Tamara Harper, Recording Secretary.

