

Kachemak Bay State Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2017

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Roll Call: Board Members - Lindsay Wolter, Beaver Nelson, Glenn Green, Aron Peterson, Steve Schultz, Carol Harding, Jeff Lee, Sera Baxter, Robert Ostrom and Nancy Hilstrand was on the phone; Staff – Jack Blackwell, Pam Russell, Jason Okuly; Public – Eric Clarke, Mrs. Nelson and Mr. Allardice.
 - b. Minutes: The minutes were approved.
 - c. Agenda Changes/Approval: Lindsay added under new business, bylaws update/ changes and Mako added Director's replacement.
 - d. Public Comment/Presentation: None.
2. Correspondence – None
3. Committee Reports
 - a. Staff gave the following update. On February 1, 2017, Director Ben Ellis was asked to leave state service so in the interim Deputy Director Matt Wedeking is currently in acting status. Jack Blackwell, Matt Wedeking, Monica Alvarez and Nevenka met with Commissioner Andy Mack to give a briefing on the Kachemak Bay Management Plan. The current schedule is to have the plan ready for public review by May 2017. A resolution was submitted at the K-Bay Nordic Ski Club meeting requesting State Park staff approval to use their grooming equipment to maintain a multiuse trail at Eveline. They approved the use and Jason has been helping with the grooming of trails at Eveline. A multiuse trail leading from the parking area to the picnic pavilion was put in place. Posted signage on the ski trails and on the multiuse trail indicate what type of recreation is allowed on each of the trails. There is evidence of fires and tree cutting at Diamond Creek, the road into the area is in good condition, not iced over. Jason performed some permit inspections across the bay at Grewingk Lake. A commercial operator left some kayaking equipment behind, which is not allowed under the operator's permit. At this time State Park staff will be working with the permittee to have items removed. Jason has started receiving inquiries about the seasonal positions across the bay. Partnering with Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve – Dana Nelson the environmental education specialist is willing to lead our monthly hikes across the bay. State Parks was able to advertise summer activities in the Homer Recreation Guide thanks to Mike Illg. Jason is currently in the process of securing a grant of \$1000.00 to offer rides across the bay for kids 13 and under to attend the monthly hikes across the bay. Jason performed a composting toilet check at Halibut Cove Lagoon, everything seems to be working. There has been a report of large pieces of Styrofoam washing up on Glacier Spit. Overlook cabin has a broken flue which needs to be replaced. State Parks has received permit applications from CIAA at China Poot Lake and Jeff Lee's for hiking and skiing.
 - b. Friends: Mako Haggerty reported that the Friends group has not had meetings for the last two months but dates have been made for upcoming events. Trails Day is scheduled for June 3rd, the pancake breakfast is May 6th (volunteers from the board are needed) with the Friendship Walk on May 7th. The Otter Eye event has been cancelled for lack of participants.

Old Business

- a. Dark Sky Proposal –Lindsay sent a letter to the Homer Harbor supporting the change of the lightbulbs at the Homer Harbor to meet Dark Sky standards.
- b. CIAA Permit: Commissioner Andy Mack issued a determination to allow the Cook Inlet Aquaculture net pens in Tutka Bay for a two-year trial. State Park staff is currently working on completing the permit for the project. Beaver mentioned that CIAA will be working with UAA to sample the benthic community beneath the net pens in Tutka Bay.
- c. Naming the New Tutka-Taylor trail-Janet forwarded a native name “Imaqcaq” which means everyone’s water. Lindsay received several names from the Seldovia Native Association and SVT which are the following: Chiemoca Passage (Good Day); Axitaxnu (Seldovia); Chief Berestoff; Tutka Traverse; Tutka Traverse and Sea to Sea. Three different names will be submitted to State Parks for consideration with the Director making the final decision. The list will rank the names in the order of preference. The board is expected to finalize the list at the next meeting.
- d. Revision of Critical Habitat Management Plan-(tabled)

4. New Business

- a. Alaska State Parks Director’s Replacement- Mako asked if it would be appropriate for the board to send in a recommendation for the replacement for the Director of State Parks. Mako was recommending Jeff Johnson the Program Coordinator II for the Access Department for State Parks in Anchorage. The board decided not to send in a recommendation since no one but Mako knows Jeff Johnson.
- b. Bylaws Replacement-A request was sent to Lindsay asking if the board should add a Conflict of Interest bylaw to the board. Also, at the same time it was recommended that this may be a good time review the bylaws and make any changes or additions. Lindsay will be sending examples of language for the conflict of interest to all the board members to discuss at the next meeting.

5. Comments and Discussion by Visitors-none

6. Comments and Discussion by Board Members-none