

Kachemak Bay State Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2017

1. Call to Order:

- a. Roll Call: Board Members - Lindsay Wolter, Beaver Nelson, Glenn Green, Aron Peterson, Steve Schultz, Mako Haggerty, Jeff Lee, Sera Baxter, Carol Harding, Robert Ostrom and Stan Lefton; Staff – Jack Blackwell, Jason Okuly, Brad Garasky and Eric Clarke;

Public: Chris Perry, Gary Fandrei, Kevin Walker, Jesse Nelson, Lori Daniel, Malcolm Mills, Steve Vanick, and John Allardice.

- b. Minutes: The minutes were approved as amended.

- c. Agenda Changes/Approval: Lindsay adding E. under new business –May 15th Listening Session with Commissioners Sam Cotton from ADF&G and Andy Mack from DNR. The agenda was approved as amended.

- d. Public Comment/Presentation: None.

2. Correspondence –None

3. A. Committee Reports- Staff gave the following update. Ranger Jason Okuly reported that the HCL Dock is broken – weld failed we are going to raise the ramp and it will be closed for about two weeks. Boat maintenance – 8m naiad, SM landing craft is in the water, 28' landing craft pulled and going back in the water soon. Training with Homer Harbor master's office to gain insight on towing vessels and to sign Ranger Brad off on his boating operation training, he has been operating on his own with restrictions. More fires have been reported at Diamond Creek SRA. There was a Fat Tire festival at Diamond Creek SRA, the course is from Anchor Point to Bishop Beach. Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance Program has a meeting at Diamond creek with representatives from ANC and the Bike club to discuss improvements. State Park staff conducted interviews for our VIP position. Eric is working on bridge work in the Wosnesenski River valley –ACC crews hired, still need VIP for ranger station. Staff attended the Fish Habitat Partnership Science Symposium in Soldotna. Participated in a Volunteer recruitment with I&O. Had a few people sign up as volunteers. K-bay watershed stakeholders meeting discussing release date of management plan, inviting them to attend the advisory board meeting due to overlapping themes. Defensive Tactic training in Soldotna, Emergency Trauma Training refresher. SEA meeting to utilize a group of 8 volunteers helping with trail maintenance. Jack explained that this group is associated with Cook Inlet Regional Corporation and state park only must cover the cost of boat transportation across the bay. Our PUC are on a new rental service; you can still reserve them by following the old format May 15th commissioners listening meeting. April 15th Chugachik Island work party with water trail. Water Trail adapted kayak beach and wish to install a pit toilet by the new tent platform. Plugging along with trails day on June 3rd.

B. Friend's Report- Mako Haggerty reported Friends of Kachemak Bay State Parks met Monday April 3. Our checking account has \$13,832.48; money market has \$4627.83. This is Water Trail month at Grace Ridge Brewery. This means all tips collected in April go to the Water Trail. There was a social last Saturday at the Brewery for the Water Trail. We discussed Trails Day, June 3. The job now is to get volunteers to sign-up and get the paperwork to the State. If anyone plans on any volunteer work this year, please get your volunteer agreement filled in and submitted. The Pancake Breakfast planning is moving along. Letters of soliciting food donations have been delivered to Save-U-More and Safeway. If you see Mark at Save-U-More or Bob at Safeway thank them for their donations. The downstairs kitchen at the Methodist Church has been reserved. We will need to put up flyers and sign-up volunteers. There is an effort to get Taz Tally to re-write and combine his book of trails and Josh Dufus' hiking guide. This is an ambitious project and will need substantial funding. Taz will

pursue a grant for the project. Friends had two new members attend the Board meeting, Josiah McDonald and Deb Rhoades. Both showed interest in joining the Board and we are happy to welcome them. With Dorothy getting married this year her involvement has lessened and we needed some help with bookkeeping, etc. Both Josiah and Deb bring new energy and skills to our organization. Eric introduced an idea to put together an interactive map online. This can replace the weekly trail report and be more current. Josiah offered to help with that. Brad asked for financial help to move a yurt from the Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies Peterson Bay field station to Eveline recreation area. Friends approved \$2000 for the move. The Nordic Ski Club has shown interest in setting up a MOU with Parks to manage the yurt. Friends are actively recruiting volunteers through the High School's community service program. Our next meeting is Monday May 1, 2017.

Old Business:

- a. Naming the New Tutka- Lindsay ask each board member to give their top recommendation from the list of six names for the new trail that starts in Tutka Bay and ends in Taylor Bay. The board voted with a show of hands and Tutka Backdoor received six votes and Tutka Traverse received four votes. The three top names to be sent to the Director are as follows:

1. Tutka Backdoor
2. Tutka Traverse
3. Tutka-Taylor Trail

- b. Update to bylaws-conflict of interest statement: Nancy Hillstrand had recommended that a conflict of interest clause be added to the Kachemak Bay Advisory board bylaws. The following language was submitted for review to the board members:

A board member shall disclose to the board any significant conflict of interest involving any matter presented to the board for action.

A significant conflict of interest exists if the board is asked to consider and recommend agency action in which the board member, or a member of his or her immediate family, holds a direct financial interest or is directly involved. The disclosure shall be made before discussion of the matter begins. The board shall then determine by a majority vote whether a significant conflict of interest exists, and whether the affected board member shall participate in discussion or vote on the issue. This conflict of interest policy shall not be construed to preclude board members from participating in discussion or voting on issues in which the board member has a general financial interest as a result of being a member of a group or class of users affected by the proposed action; however, a board member's general financial interest must be disclosed to the board prior to discussion of the matter.

The question is does the board want a conflict of interest clause in the bylaws? Is so, what would it like? Beaver asked if there are any other State Park Advisory boards that have such a statement. Jack responded that Kenai River Special Management Board for the Kenai River.

Mako made a motion that board adopts the language that was submitted for a conflict of interest statement to be added to the bylaws. Aron Peterson seconds the motions.

Mako recommended that they strike the language that a board member that may have a conflict cannot participate in the discussion. The board shall then determine by a majority vote whether a significant conflict of interest exists, and whether the affected board member shall participate in discussion or vote on the issue. Jeff Lee agrees with that.

Mako is withdrawing his motion. Aron seconds the motion.

Mako made a motion that the board does adopt a conflict of interest statement to be added to the bylaws. Jeff Lee seconds.

For=4 Against=6

The board voted not to adopt a conflict of interest statement to the bylaws.

4. New Business

- a. RTP grant priorities/CAB letter of support- The board will write a letter of support based on State Park staff recommendation on trails that will be submitted for complete trail construction. Currently State Park is looking at the Saddle trail and Lagoon trail for next year's great application. It may also look at infrastructure such as Public Use Cabins, trails bridges and equipment. If you have recommendation for projects, please submit that to State Parks. This is going to be address again at the September board meeting.
- b. Seldovia interested in building trails in the park- Jeff Lee reported that Seldovia is currently working at bicycle trails to gain access to areas in and around Seldovia. The road that goes to the Port Dick area would have a trail that diverts and goes to the Gulf Coast along an easement. Jeff requested this be discussed at a later board meeting when more information is available.
- c. Permit application for a composting toilet in the Wilderness Park-Jeff Lee has applied to place a composting toilet. An application for the base camp including a composting toilet in the Wilderness Park. This is for the purpose that this is just a remote area and there are no human waste station as public use increases. Jeff would manage the composting toilet by building and maintaining it.

Brad highlighted information from the management plan that pertains to the project. Non-compatible use in the Wilderness Park unless permitted. Wilderness definition. An area whose predominant character is the result of the interplay of natural processes, large enough and so situated as to be unaffected, except in minor ways, by what takes place in the non-wilderness around it, a physical condition which activates the innermost emotions of the observer and where development of man-made objects will be strictly limited and depend entirely on good taste and judgment so that the wilderness values are not lost.

Other points of discussion were the Wilderness Zone designation and facility development. This information can be found in the current Kachemak Bay State and Wilderness Park management plan on pages 33 and 45.

Jeff Lee submitted one application for the commercial guiding and one for the composting toilet. Jeff said the idea was that more visitors are using the trail and was trying to avoid contamination to the local waters.

Mako made a motion to approve the application to allow Jeff Lee to construct a composting toilet on the Tutka Backdoor Trail in the Wilderness Park. Carol seconds the motion.

The board voted to approve Jeff Lee a permit for the composting toilet on Tutka Backdoor Trail.

- d. **Management Plan Subcommittee formation:** Lindsay stated that the draft release for the Kachemak Bay management plan has been change. A new date has not been determined. The board members are still asked to put some recommendations together on items would like to see in the management plan. It also good to put this out to the public.

Board members interesting in being on the committee but not the chair are Mako Haggerty, Carol Harding, and Jeff Lee. Lindsay will put this on the May meeting to see if a chair can be selected.

- e. **Listening session with the commissioners:** Meetings concerning the CIAA net pens permit in Tutka Bay with Commissioners Andy Mack of DNR and Sam Cotton from ADF&G on Monday, May 15th 2017 at the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Oceans and Islands Center in Homer. The meeting will be from 6-8pm. This meeting is in response to the letter that was submitted to the Governor Walker by many interested [parties regarding the placement of the net pens in Tutka Bay. Everyone are welcome.

5. **Comments and Discussion by Visitors-**A visitor asked how the process for the development of the management plan is accomplished. Jack Blackwell described the process. It is recommended that an email be send to everyone that is on the public and board email list concerning the committee meeting pertaining to the management plan subcommittee meetings.

Ground Truth Trekking Backdoor Trail grant application is moving forward. Hig is arranging the work to be completed on the trail between August 5 through the 20, 2017 and volunteers are being solicited.

6. **Comments and Discussion by Board Members-**none