

Kachemak Bay State Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2017

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Roll Call: Board Members - Beaver Nelson, Aron Peterson, Steve Schultz, Mako Haggerty, Sera Baxter, Robert Ostrom, Jeff Lee, Nancy Hilstrand and Carol Harding; Staff – Jack Blackwell, Jason Okuly, Eric Clarke and Brad Garasky.

Public: Roger Mac Campbell, Janet Klein, Bob Shavleson, and John Allardice.

2. Minutes: The minutes were approved.
3. Agenda Changes/Approval: The agenda was approved.
4. Public Comment/Presentation: None.
5. Correspondence –None
6. A. Committee Reports- Staff gave the following update:

Ranger Jason Okuly reported that it was brought to his attention as to how Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) views the advisory board and their authority.

Helicopters have been reported flying around Sadie Knob. It is believed that they are using the area for skiing. State Parks conducted some cross training with Homer harbor staff in regards to boat training such as towing vessels around the harbor and surf rescues. This also helped Ranger Brad Garasky sign off on some items involving his boat training. To be certified to run vessels.

Jason and Brad went to Anchorage for their 40-hour Law Enforcement training.

A permit application was received from Jeffrey Lee to put mooring buoys at the head of Tutka Bay. The buoys would be used in conjunction with his backcountry hiking operations. State Park staff has determined that this is an allowable activity and permits will be issued for the 2017 season.

Alaska Wildlife Troopers had their annual law enforcement meeting in Soldotna. This gives all the local law enforcement personnel an opportunity to meet each other and talk about hot issues in the area. Jason and Brad have also been working on some training with the State? Or Homer City Police? Troopers.

The Halibut Cove Lagoon dock is currently useable but a few of the welds were broken on the wheels that allow the ramp to go up and down during tide fluctuations. Maintenance staff is currently working on a schedule to fix the problem.

The new Kachemak Bay State Park volunteer coordinator Christina Whiting has been hired.

Ranger Brad Garasky went to Chugachik Island on a site visit with six members of the Water Trail organization to come up with a plan on the work needed to be completed on Trails day.

Brad is currently getting the Halibut Cove Lagoon Ranger station up and running for the season. There currently are some hosts hired to manage the area full time for the 2017 season. They arrive Memorial weekend.

Brad is conducting site visits to many of the Kachemak Bay facilities. He will file a report to management on the condition of the facilities.

Eric Clarke went to the trails conference in Anchorage in April. Eric learned that a member of the Chugach Advisory board is starting a fund where people can donate funds that can be used to work on trails in the park and have monies for material and possible staff. Eric suggested that maybe this could be something that the Friends of Kachemak Bay organization could help with for Kachemak Bay State Park. Eric is also going to start working with the Alaska trails organization starting trails stewards where members of the public can go out and

work on some trails. This can be a one night or longer trip into the park and work on a trail that needs maintenance.

The ACC crews have been hired for the 2017 season. The crews are currently going through training. A CIRI Conservation group will be in the park for a week performing maintenance at Humpy Creek and brush out a plateau. The good thing about this is that if a group has their own insurance and are willing to work in the park, State Parks just needs to issue a special use permit and provide water taxi transport.

Jack Blackwell reported that the director's position for Alaska State Parks is still vacant. Jack also reminded the board of the upcoming public meeting on May 15 at Islands and Ocean with the Commissioners Andy Mack of Alaska State Parks and Sam Cotton of Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The commissioners are having a listening session on the net pens in Tutka Bay.

CIAA has decided not to put the net pens in Tutka Bay for the 2017 season. The board has asked that State Parks would send out a notification to the board when information of that nature is received.

B. Friend's Report- Mako Haggerty reported Friends of Kachemak Bay State Parks has \$13,749.35; money market has \$4628.38. The pancake breakfast was a success, the event brought in \$1200.00 dollars and the expenditure were \$1000.00. This event takes a lot of labor with volunteers and State Park staff. This event has been going on for a least 10 years. The friendship walk has 14 people participate and the max is 15. It was one of the best beach hikes Mako had ever had. The guides were Rich and Elly Klein and Carol Harding and all the water taxi service was donated by Allen Parks, Karl Stoltzfus, Mako Haggerty and Curtis Jackson.

The group is currently looking forward to Trails Day. They are working on a list of projects which include a fly in to China Poot lake where they will fly in Friday, stay at the cabin and work on the trail on Saturday and then hike down to Halibut Cove Lagoon to be pick up by water taxi back to Homer. The tickets to fly over are \$100 apiece and the trip is sold out with four people filling the plane. The Kayak Beach overnight currently has four people signed up. The guided hike to Grewingk Glacier with Taz Tally has a limit of 15 participants. This is a family hike where you hike up to the lake and then back down to be picked up by water taxi. Glacier Spit, Sadie Knob and South Grace cleanup there are six spaces available that are all open for volunteers. Diamond Creek trail has ten spaces looking for volunteers.

The volunteers for these events have come from the sign-up book that was at the pancake breakfast and word of mouth.

Let all your friends know and the sign-up book at Ranger Brad Garasky office at Islands and Oceans Visitor Center.

7. Old Business:

- a. Establish a Management Plan Subcommittee volunteers for the committee include Make, Jefferey Lee, Nancy Hillstrand and Carol Harding. Mako Haggerty will chair the sub-committee and Nancy Hillstrand will take minutes. When Mako decides to have a meeting, he will send an e-mail to all board members. Bob Shavleson will participate on the committee.

8. New Business- Roger MacCampbell gave a report of some of the issues he observed at Diamond Creek SRA. He also gave the rangers information that Diamond Creek and Glacier Spit are known to be great graduation party sites.

Bob Shavleson of Cook Inlet Keeper asked the board if they would consider supporting the City of Homer as they apply for a land and water conservation grant to upgrade the bathrooms at float one on the Homer Spit.

Mako moves to support the City of Homer effort to get a grant from land and water conservation to renovate the bathroom on the Homer Spit. Sera seconds the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

9. Comments and Discussion by Visitors-none?
10. Comments and Discussion by Board Members-Aron Peterson announced that there will be a meeting at Cottonwood Creek. Everyone is welcome to join the site visit to see how everyone is working out there. Carol Harding asked that her name be added to the April minutes.
11. Adjournment- New meeting is September 13, 2017.