

Kachemak Bay State Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
November 8th, 2017

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Roll Call: Board Members; Aron Peterson, Lindsay Wolter, Glenn Green, Robert Ostrom, Carol Harding, Sera Baxter, Beaver Nelson, Nancy Hillstrand and Jeff Lee. State Park staff – Jack Blackwell, Jason Okuly, and LeAna Moore
 - b. Public Members: Allan Parks, Randy Weist, Gary Fandrei, Bob Shavelson and John Allardice.
2. Minutes: Changes Liz Diament name was added and Roberta Highland represent the Conservation Society not the Historical Society under #9. Minutes were approved as written.
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:
 - Brad Garasky and Jason Okuly assisted a Hunter Education course in Homer. They have assisted with the Alaska Coastal Studies garbage clean up on Glacier Spit. Attended annual State Parks Staff meeting in Soldotna.
 - The Kachemak Bay boat the Naiade was brought to Soldotna for repair as there were no facilities in Homer that could repair it.
 - Brad has completed his Boating Operation Skills check off and is a qualified operator.
 - The Halibut Cove Lagoon Range Station has been winterized. The water lines did freeze. Brad drained the water lines.
 - State Parks performed an inspection of the composting outhouse with Jeff Lee. The staff is looking at how this is functioning, it seems to be successful. One side has been closed and the other will be open for two years and we will continue to monitor the progress. Would like to monitor the amount of use that it is getting. We would like to reduce the amount of times we pump the Halibut Cove Lagoon vaulted toilets.
 - Brad and Jason went to Seward to assist state Park staff Jack Ransom in operations in building a new cabin.
 - Brad and Jason performed maintenance work on the Sea Star Cove Public Use cabin. This work included the inspection and moving the outhouse. This outhouse must be moved every year. This a great spot for the composter toilet.
 - Brad has started Emergency Trauma training and should be finishing the course by the end of this month. Sera Baxter recommends that state park staff should take extensive medical training for more complicated emergency, such as Wilderness First Aid Responder training.
 - Karl Stoltzfus of Bay Excursions was presented a wooden bowl created by Dave Brand from the Friends of the Water Trail. This was to thank him for his donations to the First Day Hikes. He provided five trips at discounted rates for participants working on the trails.
 - The Tutka Yurts are down.
 - Contacted the Homer Chamber regarding updating their Visitor Guide flyer with our Parks trails in them. Having them take out the Wosnesenski Trail and the Lagoon Trail. Also requested changing wording in the description of the trails to match what our trail report has such as difficult to hike or moderate.

- Volunteer numbers was requested, 5000 hours of volunteer hours in Kachemak Bay State Park. Ground Truth last month reported 3800 hours alone so this put the hours above 5000 hours total for the year. The report is available upon request.
- The 2017 Trail use report shows approximately 7000 visitors to the park and 2016 showed 7500. In 2017 there was an increase at Glacier Spit counts around 4400 and in 2016 there were only 3800 visitors. Many of the trails are not being used due to the condition and this year was a little wetter than other years. These numbers come from the trail registers and trail counters and the board recommended putting a sign up at the registers stating that signing the trails helps with funding of the trails. The report is available upon request.

B. Friend's Report-No Report

7. Old Business

8. New Business

- a. Procedures for public comment periods-Sera Baxter commented that at the end of the September meeting it appeared that the discussion may have gotten a little out of hand. The public is encouraged to provide comments to the board on issues before the board. The board has the power to control the meeting and that the bylaws give us the option to develop our own rules. The current bylaws do not have any clarity as to the procedure of allowing the public to participate. It does take two meetings to pass the bylaws before the change can be made.

Sera is proposing to add to the bylaws requirements for public speaking as follows:

1. That a member can speak for 3 minutes with the option to extend it to 5 minutes upon approval of the chair.
2. The proceeding option may be waved in special circumstances by the board chair or a motion from the board.

Lindsay commented that she will be stepping down as the chair of the board and that election for board chair and vice chair in January. As chair, she has tried to have a balance as to allow the public to speak at the meeting regarding the subject that is being discussed.

Carol Harding thought it is dependent on the number of public members that are attending. If there are several public members it would be nice to have some time limits. Often someone will talk more than once or a length about the same issue.

Jack Blackwell noted that there is a time for the public to speak to the board at the end of the meeting. This would be in put in place instead of allowing public to speak during the agenda item being discussed.

It was recommended that the public comment be added to the beginning of the agenda. How the structure the agenda is the option of the board.

It is recommended that maybe this can be done informally at each of the meetings. If there is a large crowd at the onset of the meeting, inform the crowd as to what the time limit is.

- b. Discussion about Volunteer hours- Nancy Hilstrand received an article from Nina Faust about the article in the Anchorage Daily News regarding making money in the park. The Alaska Community Foundation now accepts donations for the benefit of Chugach State Park, and the donations will be used to build and maintain trails and trail-related amenities in the park.

Homer has its own community foundation, which awards grants to non-profits for projects in the area. Kachemak Bay State Park could have a similar fund as that created for Chugach State Park, and the fund could be run through the Homer Foundation. It takes \$10,000 dollars to set up a fund with the foundation

and the monies would be to for a purpose in the park, such as trail maintenance or interpretive signs. Anyone can donate to the fund at any time.

Jack commented that the Director of State Parks is really interested in expanding this program to other areas.

Lindsay stated that once a fund is created, income the fund generates can then be distributed to grant applicants who have proposed a project that fits within the purpose of the fund. Lindsay will talk to Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park about this.

Nancy Hilstrand recommended creating a poster of all the volunteers in the Park and having their names on the poster. This would show the support of Kachemak Bay State Park. If possible have an incentive to help.

9. Comments and Discussion by Visitors

Allen Parks commented that he attended the ADF&G Critical Habitat planning meeting and that there was some good discussion on setting goals. Allen agrees that there should be a State Parks representative.

Gary Fandrei from Cook Inlet Aquaculture commented that he will try to attend the board meetings to give regular updates regarding the hatchery. The hatchery release 54 million pink fry this spring in three separate batches. The egg take project this year had some improvements added to the process that work very well. It was estimated that 124 million eggs were collected. This summer a shed burned on site. There was a problem with the backup of the sewage at the bunkhouse, a contractor is working on the problem. The association is currently working on the idea of storing the carcasses after the egg take to sell to a processor.

10. Comments and Discussion by Board Members

Nancy Hillstrand requested that someone from Alaska State Parks should be on the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Plan revision committee. Nancy proposed that the board write a letter requesting that a representative from Alaska State Parks be on the committee. Jack Blackwell did send Nancy's request to the Director and he is working on getting an answer.

Nancy made a motion that the board send a letter to the Division of Habitat requesting that a State Park representative be on the planning team for the critical habitat management plan revision.

Sera seconds the motion.

The board passed it unanimously.

Aron Peterson commented that the management plan for the park has land that is between the Bay and East End Road. Aron received a permit to clear the land from mile 16.8 to the parking lot and the work has been completed. You park on DNR land and there are some private markers on the right and DNR on the left and State Park straight ahead.

Carol Harding asked for an update on the Kachemak Bay Management plan. Jack commented that the planning team is working on the plan and a date for the public comment period has not been released.

Lindsay commented that the board decides if they would like to have a meeting in December 13, 2017. It was determined that there be no meeting in December 2017.