

Kachemak Bay State Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2018

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Roll Call: Board Members; Glenn Green, Beaver Nelson, Jeff Lee, Aron Peterson, Stan Lefton and Mako Haggerty. State Park staff – Jack Blackwell, Jason Okuly, Eric Clarke and Brad Garasky

There was not a quorum
 - b. Public Members: Janet Klein, Robert Archibald, Mitch and Willie Dunn.
2. Minutes: Changes were made to the minutes. But not approve for the lack of a quorum.
3. Agenda Changes/Approval: Aron Peterson will give a proposal under new business. The agenda was approved as amended
4. Public Comment/Presentation: None.
5. Correspondence: None.
6. A. Committee Reports- Staff gave the following update:
 - a. Jason Okuly reported to the board the following:
 - Brad Garasky has accepted a position in Juneau as Chief Ranger, His last day is May 18th, 2018.
 - Staff is conducting boat maintenance.
 - The Halibut Lagoon Dock is down and ready for use.
 - Much of the staff is conducting infrastructure inspections.
 - The Critical Habitat meeting topics at the last meeting were docks and the flotation used and there was also discussion regarding personal watercraft use in the bay.
 - There is currently one VIP staff hired for the summer season for Kachemak Bay State Park.
 - The ACC trail crew is completely hired.
 - The Saddle Trail and the Halibut Cove Lagoon RTP have been approved. All the projects that state park staff applied for have been approved in Kachemak Bay.
 - Ground Truth Trekking also was approved their RTP grant to continue work on the Tutka Backdoor trail.
 - CIAA is intending on putting the net pens out during the net high tide cycle. They will be using a seine boat anchor to the net pens to perform all feeding and maintenance of the pens.
 - Holland America is requesting filming permit for several state parks throughout the state. Kachemak Bay is one of them.
 - Bike permits are being requested to operate from Anchor Point to Bishop Beach, stopping at Diamond Creek. Using Cottonwood Eastland as a turning point.
 - Alaska Yurt rental is requesting to install a composting toilet at two sites, Quarry and Kayak Beach. Mako commented that they would like to see an agreement between Alaska Yurts and State Parks on how the maintenance of the composter will be handled.
 - Boy Scouts will be working on Coalition loop trail this summer.
 - Staff is continuing to work on training.
 - Smokey Bay Air does bear viewing across the inlet. They will be doing practice landing and take offs outside the park on a private inholding next to haystack beach. This will be happening for one week on

May 14th and 19th and they will pick one day in that week. They are required to notify Fish and Game for this is within the critical habitat area.

- Complaints have come in the Diamond Creek SRA trail the shape of the existing trail is in poor shape. A member of the public shared pictures of the trail and was perplexed by the lack of maintenance of the trail. He would like to see State Parks put more effort into the trail. The trail is not safe. Janet Klein also commented that the trail is in poor shape and in need of repair. A sign that states travel at your own risk.
- Jack Blackwell commented that staff looked at the trail and we would not post it as closed but that the trail is in poor condition it is muddy and slippery. The state will continue to look at alternative ideas and repairs for the trail. A designated trail crew would be very beneficial in this area but we are unable to have due to budget cuts. A kiosk is currently being construction to be placed at the trail head where this information could be posted and a sign in registered to start getting a more accurate account of users.
- Jason commented that we are not responsible for anyone that may get hurt using the trail. This is public lands that has a manmade trail that has been used historically by hikers. This is not a trail that was create by State Park staff.
- Mako Haggerty believes that we should discussed more on how we can work on the trail and make it more usable. Puts this on May agenda for further discussion.
- Eric Clarke reported that the Wosnesenski is still flooding the Woz trail. People are finding places to cross the water at different points.
- Boys Scout worked on Coalition Loop trail and one more trip will complete the loop work.

Jack Blackwell reported to the board the following:

- The division will be filling the volunteer coordinator this year in Kachemak Bay. The division won't be able to fill the position until the first of June. The coordinator does a lot of work for the division.
- Jack reported that the Governor announced the State's budget for next year. State Park budget did not see any changes and will remain the same as last year's budget. At this time, we have not had any more information about the public use cabins that were proposed until the budget is finalized.

b. Friend's Report- Robert Archibald reported to the board the following:

- A meeting was held on April 2, 2018 and the current Friend's account has a total of \$12,000 dollars. The water trail has \$1200 dollars. The next meeting of Friends is May 2nd.
- A load of wood was cut, bundled and stacked for a cost of 700 dollars. Selling them for 10 a bundle or 3 bundles for 20 dollars. They are looking for a profit of 3000 dollars.
- During the Shorebird festival the group will be offering a pancake breakfast and a booth that will be for both the Water Trail and Friends of Kachemak Bay organizations.
- The City of Homer is going to donate funds to help pave the area around the new pavilion on the spit and make the area ADA accessible. This should be completed by May. The Water Trail organization also ordered three roll up mats for wheelchair accessibility to and from the boat ramp area.
- The Water trail is going to have two programs at Grace Ridge. The first one is a kayak safety this will May 11, this will go over the do's and don'ts of kayaking. The second one is a slide show from some folks that floated the Grand Canyon would like to have a slide show on May 24th.
- Mako asked who to contact for putting these events on the State Parks website. Darcy Harris is the one who will post those events.
- Mako will be on Coffee Table and would like to have a State Park representative available during the talk.
- Chapman School children in Jonathan Sharps class are working on building the Kiosk for Dimond Creek trailhead. Friends donated 350 dollars for the project.
- Cottonwood Eastland the snow has been removed to start working in the area. Plowed the snow in Elmers way to see the center of Elmers way to the park boundary. Currently a surveyor will need to be

hired to set the boundaries before work can continue. Aron is going to talk to the borough on helping in determining the boundaries.

- There is a meeting for a bike path proposed by Dimond Creek on Thursday April 19th. Public is invited.

7. Old Business

- a. Kachemak Bay Management Plan update. Jack reported that the public draft should be available as soon the planners have completed updating the information.
- b. Tool Loaner Program-Jason reported that the States Risk management department had determined that this had too much liability to permit. But they have now stated that if State Parks is hands free that they would permit the project. In other words, a permit can be issuing stating you can go and use the told to perform trail maintenance if say some like the friend's organization buy and take care of the tools and supply the informational documents on how to use the tools.

8. New Business

- a. Naming the New Tutka Bay-Taylor Bay Trail-Jack Blackwell reported that the three recommendation that was presented to the director. The three names that were proposed for the trail are the Tutka Backdoor, Tutka Traverse and Tutka-Taylor Trail. The board should send a letter directly to the director from the board.
- b. Advisory Board Recruitment- There are currently 12 people on the board. Nancy, Mako, and Steve's terms expired January 2018 and we received 6 applications. The board voted to increase the board to 15 and the director is reviewing the application now and will have an announcement soon.
- c. Adopt a Stream, Watershed Forum-Jason reported that their primary function is working with heavy concentration of people and fish. The draft volunteers to go out and work with users group in educating the public on regulation, bears safety, fish cleaning, pick up trash and help put up fencing to keep anglers off vegetation. They are currently moving there program south and will be working on the Anchor and Deep Creek area. Two-year test program in Homer and it may expand in the future.
- d. Aron Peterson Proposal- Aron is proposing to submit an RTP grant for \$50,000 dollars to place a driveway and a parking lot on East End road. Aron would like to have the board write a letter to State Park management to build a public cabin use at mile 16.8-mile area of East End Road. This will be postponed until the May meeting do to a lack of a quorum.

9. Comments and Discussion by Visitors

10. Comments and Discussion by Board Members-Jeffrey Lee commented that there is a helicopter landing in a no landing zone. It is a maroon or reddish color. Jeff asked question about per client fees. Aron commented there is a trail conference April 26 through the 28 in Anchorage. Aron was interested in the grant course that will be presented on Thursday and he was looking for a copy of either a recording or taping of the course.