

Seward State Parks Citizen Advisory Board

Minutes

Tuesday, May 14, 2019 5:30-7:00pm

AVTEC Culinary Arts Academy Banquet Room, 518 Third Ave

I. Call to Order

- A. Call to Order by Chair Jordan at 5:30 pm
- B. Minutes taker: Carol Griswold
- C. Roll Call: Carol Griswold, Nick Jordan, Paul Paquette, Cliff Reid (quorum)
- D. Board members absent: Nathaniel Charbonneau, Mark Luttrell, Tess Tulley
- E. State Park Staff: Superintendent Jack Blackwell, District Ranger Jack Ransom; Park Specialist Michael Burmeister
- F. Public Present: none
- G. Minutes Approval for April 9, 2019, Carol/Paul, Unanimous
- H. Agenda Changes and Approval: Carol/Cliff, Unanimous

II. Public Comments: none

III. Board Contact and Correspondence: Carol relayed public comment on desire to allow parking by boat launch. This is a borough ROW, not state park issue.

IV. Reports:

A. Staff Report and Discussion

- Ransom and Michael spent 2 days and 1 night in Whittier doing maintenance on Safety Cove PUC, and noted more time is needed. Cabin generates income from March to August.
- Michael submitted historic register nomination for Fort McGilvray; it received a good response, needs fine tuning and field work for site plan. Board will have an opportunity to review it.
- Jack R will get Tonsina PUC on list to be covered by insurance.
- No progress on Tonsina trailhead kiosk yet; low priority and short staffed.
- New interpretive panels on bear safety and KTMA panels will be installed soon.
- Tidepool etiquette interpretive panel by LPSRS lower parking lot latrine needs to be moved closer to beach trail where more visitors will see it.
- Public Use Cabin log books archive: these have been proven useful in outreach programs to promote PUCs. Staff will continue to collect and archive them.
- Parking lot striping update: this could be done when 2 more volunteers arrive this summer. Parks has a striper in Ninilchik, but maybe City would let parks borrow one from Parks and Rec.
- 2020 Chamber Destination Guide input: Jack R will talk to Chamber when parking decals arrive re: beach etiquette, park acknowledgement, better maps.
- Alaska Sealife Center assisted with warning signs and monitoring at LPSRS re: resting/molting elephant seal at beach, a very unusual visitor!
- Hazard inspection completed at Fort McGilvray.
- Calisto PUC move to safer location away from flooding planned for September.
- State Military and Veteran's Affairs/FEMA on-site inspection of Tonsina North Fork Bridge and bank erosion issue, and Calisto PUC flooding issues.
- Recreation Trails Program: funding received to repair Tonsina N Fork Bridge and armor protection along bank; hope to get it done before there is more damage.
- KMTA interested in input over the summer; could hold a special meeting.

- Staff excited to welcome Ricky Gease as new Director. 50th Anniversary of State Parks and Kachemak Bay State Park in 2020, Caines Head SRA in 2021. This is an opportunity to promote and highlight State Parks. Light pole banners suggested.
- Jack B noted the tremendous demand for PUCs, and benefit of revenue generated. Interested in suggestions for more PUC locations in Resurrection Bay in park or on state land.
- Jack B noted there is currently no support for additions to state parks unless they generate revenue.
- Paul suggested creating more hiking trail loops, such as Tonsina to the ridge to connect to the Alpine Trail, and Tonsina to Exit Glacier. PUCs could be added.
- Jack B noted a bike, water, ski, hike trail plan could be developed with NPS Rivers, Trails Conservation Assistance Program. Paul Clark is the Anchorage contact. (<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/rtca/index.htm>)
- Jack B pointed out the difficulties of hiking the Coastal Trail and accessing the PUCs due to the pinch points. Consider building a boardwalk around them, removing them with blasting, or building a trail around them. Analysis needed.
- Jack B recommended that the Board read the Prince William Sound and Resurrection Bay State Parks Management Plan 1995 plan. This is not currently available in an electronic form, so Jack B will bring paper copies for the board on his next trip. This plan could be the umbrella plan with CHSRA Plan included. Jack noted that the new plans have a permitting matrix, and support tent platforms. There was some discussion about the Board's desire for Resurrection Bay area to be separated from PWS. Board noted that a letter of interest was sent to the past and current director requesting a revision of the CHSRA Plan.

- B. Committee Reports (each board member should serve on at least one committee, preferably two; the public is welcome to serve on a committee.)
1. Resource Impact Mitigation (Mark and Paul) Paul said they decided against requesting a study.
 2. Local issues: (Nick, Paul): Dramatic rescue of a car driven down the beach that got stuck with the rising tide. Subsequently Paul moved some rocks buried in the alders from the ROW to make a better barrier along the boat launch.
 3. Website and Interpretation (Carol) Jack B said DNR continuing work on website.

V. Old Business:

1. Public input for tent platform at Day Harbor (Cliff) Cliff agrees with Mark that tent platforms are not needed at Day Harbor. It would be better to focus on where users need them in the bay such as Derby Cove (public comment request), South Beach, and Fox Island Spit. Providing a ridge pole and two side poles over the platforms to drape a tarp over the tent would be greatly appreciated in our wet climate.

VI. New Business:

1. Board field trip to North Beach and Fort McGilvray: Jack R will research a few weekend dates in July and canvass Board for the best date.
2. Discuss possible time change for 2-hour meeting from 5:30 to 7:30 (Carol) Jack B suggested forming committees to address issues outside of the meeting. We have

committees, but with so few members, they are not very effective. Item postponed to September meeting.

3. Discussion on recording meeting: discussion with Carol in opposition to posting recording on-line.

4. Discuss possible EVOS funding for private parcel: Nick will get phone number for Jack B to contact property owner to determine interest or not. It is a slow process, 1 ½ years.

VII. Public Comments: none

VIII. Adjournment

- A. Board Comments: Cliff noted that tent platforms do not generate revenue.
- B. Date/Location of next meeting: AVTEC on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 5:30 pm.
- C. Motion to Adjourn: Paul/Cliff, Unanimous 7:10 pm.