

SnoTRAC Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes for December 17, 1999 – Anchorage, Alaska

To be approved at March 20, 2000 meeting

Meeting called to order by John Johnston at 9:25 am.

A quorum was present.

Members present: John Johnson, Randy Crosby, Marianne Beckham, Korey Cronquist, Rick Goozen, Greg Barclay, Kenton Bloom, and Lee Johnson.

Members absent: Jim Stimpfle (excused)

Staff: Jim Stratton & Ron Crenshaw.

Guests: Kevin Hite, Joe Gauna, Bill Davidson (Susitna Dog Tours - www.susitnadogtours.com), Dennis Heikes (state parks), & Kevin Keeler (National Park Service).

There were no changes to the minutes of the last meeting.

Welcome & introduction by State Park Director Jim Stratton. Jim announced that State Parks has requested \$188,000 in the Capital Budget this year to continue the snowmobile grant program. He invited SnoTRAC to tweak the evaluation process as needed and allocate this year's grant money as soon as possible to show good faith in getting the money allocated that was appropriated by last year's legislature.

Ron announced that committee member Deb Wells from Fairbanks has resigned, and briefed committee on reimbursement for travel and per diem.

Agenda changes. Greg wants to talk about committee members designating alternates to represent them when they are unable to attend. Randy requested a recap of the snowmobile grant application process.

John asked for declaration of conflicts by committee members. Marianne announced possible conflict with the Anchorage Snowmobile Club grant application because she's a member, and possible conflict with the Port MacKenzie trailhead project. Greg declared a possible conflict with the SAFEKIDS Coalition project. John declared a possible conflict with ASSA's application for Avalanche Safety project, and with the Fairbanks Snow Travelers application. Randy declared a possible conflict with Anchorage Snowmobile Club grant and with the Mat-Su Borough's snowmobile safety and rescue project.

A discussion of "alternates" followed. John reiterated the discussion from June 4, 1999 meeting that proxies from members who can't attend a meeting must be in writing by the

absent member and can only be given to another SnoTRAC member to use if there is a vote.

Motion: Greg moved and Ric seconded, that alternates be allowed.

Discussion: Members represent geographical areas and alternates would have to represent those areas.

Vote: 5 for; 1 against; 1 abstention.

Motion: Ric then moved and Greg seconded, that the discussion of alternates be tabled until 3:45pm.

Vote: Motion passed.

The committee next ranked the 22 projects submitted. Seven projects were in the Safety & Education category and 15 in the Development & Maintenance category. The five members who evaluated projects were John, Marianne, Kenton, Greg, and Randy. Their scores were totaled and ranking established within the two categories. *See attached ranking sheet.*

Each project was then discussed by the full committee. Based on the discussion, a motion was made on each, whether or not to fund, and for how much. If projects were funded but at a lesser amount than requested, a recommendation was sometimes made as to what the priority should be. Those recommendations appear on the *attached ranking sheet.*

Guest Bill Davidson called the committee's attention to a problem of recreational snowmobilers tearing up the trails used by locals to get to their cabins. He stressed the need for signs that would inform recreational riders which trails are for local access and which are for recreation. Bill suggested a sign that says "utility trail" with a graphic of a snowmobile pulling a sled.

The agenda items called "snowmobile videos", "trail signing standardization", and "update on snowmobile registration program" were postponed to the March 20th meeting.

Motion: Greg moved and Marianne seconded, to support State Park request for \$188,000 for 2001 snowmobile trail grant program with no new personnel.

Vote: Motion passed.

Kevin Keeler gave a power point program on surveying snowmobile trails using GPS survey technology.

Motion: Ric moved and Greg seconded, that SnoTRAC accept alternate representation of appointed members providing that:

1. Written acknowledgement by the appointed member (alternate or committee member?) be provided not less than 5 days before the meeting;
2. No more than three (3) successive unexcused absences by an appointed member (the Director's appointee or alternate?) cause an alternate to sit at a meeting.

3. A majority of the members present must accept said alternate.
4. Not more than two alternates be allowed at any meeting.

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passed. 7 yes. 1 No.

Greg submitted in writing his alternate designation as Howard Davis of Clam Gulch.

Agenda items suggested for March meeting:

1. Snowmobile videos. (carry over from December meeting)
2. Trail signing standardization. (carry over from December meeting)
3. Update on snowmobile registration program.
4. Statewide Snowmobile Coordinator.
5. New Ethics Act interpretation from Attorney General.
6. Application revisions.
7. Evaluation process revisions.

Next SnoTRAC meeting March 20, 2000, City Hall, 3rd Floor, Parks & Beautification Conference Room (same location as last meeting) in anchorage. The entire agenda will be review and recommendation of awards of grants.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Meeting minutes prepared by Ron Crenshaw.

December 30, 1999

This is the list of Snowmobile Trail Grant applications submitted for 2000 funding. The Snowmobile Trails Advisory Committee (SnoTRAC) ranked all projects using the criteria contained in the application, and recommended funding based on a combination of each projects rating, perceived need for limited snowmobile funds, benefits to snowmobilers, and availability of other funding sources for the project.

The "Amount Awarded" column is the grant amount recommended by SnoTRAC and approved by the Director.

SAFETY & EDUCATION PROJECTS						
<i>RANK</i>	<i>PROJECT TITLE</i>	<i>APPLICANT</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>AMOUNT REQUESTED</i>	<i>AMOUNT AWARDED</i>	<i>NOTE</i>
1	Snowmobile Safety & Training	Alaska State Snowmobile Association	Statewide	\$14,200	\$14,200	
2	Avalanche Hazard Recognition Workshop	Fairbanks Snow Travelers	Fairbanks	\$1,100	\$1,100	
3	Hatcher Pass Snowmobile Brochure	Alaska State Parks	Hatcher Pass	\$5,000	\$2,500	SnoTRAC recommends private contractor
4	Curung Snowmobile Safety Project	Curung Tribal Council	Dillingham	\$1,000	\$1,000	
5	Child Snowmobile Awareness Safety Course	Kenai Peninsula SAFEKIDS Coalition	Kenai Peninsula	\$5,000	\$1,000	Recommend funding helmets
6	Snowmobile Rescue & Safety	Mat-Su Borough	Hatcher Pass & Big Lake Areas	\$9,580	0	
7	Winter Safety Clinic	Big Lake Chamber of Commerce	Big Lake	\$4,000	0	
DEVELOPMENT & MAINTENANCE PROJECTS						
1	Eklutna Cabin	Mountaineering Club & State Parks	Anchorage	\$11,000	0	
2	Lawson Creek Bridge	Trail Mix & Juneau Snowmobile club	Juneau	\$15,000	\$15,000	
3	Kroto Creek Trailhead	Alaska State Parks	Kroto Creek - Petersville Area	\$5,460	\$3,960	Recommend funding latrine
4	Lake Louise Recreational Trails	Lake Louise Snowmachine Club	Glennallen	\$16,600	0	
5	Winter Trailhead Amenities	City of Wasilla	Wasilla	\$15,000	0	
6	Trail Grooming	City of Wasilla	Wasilla	\$10,500	\$1,750	
7	Sleeping Lady Trail	Eagle Song on	Mt. Susitna	\$20,000	\$7,530	

		Trail Lake	Area			
8	Upper Huffman & Ptarmigan Trails	Anchorage Snowmobile Club	Anchorage	\$7,000	\$4,500	Recommend grooming.
9	Point MacKenzie Trailhead	Mat-Su Borough	Point MacKenzie	\$15,000	\$3,500	
10	South Fork Montana Creek Trail Improvements	Montana Creek Motor Musers	South of Talkeetna	\$15,000	\$1,000	Not in Mat-Su Bourough trail plan.
11	Wet Gulch Trail survey	Mat-Su Motor Musers	Willow	\$10,000	0	
12	Big Lake Trail Grooming	Big Lake Chamber of Commerce	Big Lake & Susitna Valley	\$15,000	\$15,000	
13	Chatanika/Cleary Summit Trail Equipment	Chatanika Community Council	Fairbanks	\$15,000	\$15,000	
14	Equipment Purchase & Grooming	Alaska Snow Safaris	Turnagain Arm - Anchorage	\$10,000	\$10,000	
15	Susitna Landing Trail Grooming	Rons Riverboat Service	Susitna Valley	\$8,000	\$1,000	For trail signing only