

Seward State Parks Citizens Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2015 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
AVTEC Culinary Arts Building Banquet Room, 518 Third Ave

I. Call to Order

- A. Call to Order: by Vice Chair John Eavis at 5:10 pm.
- B. Roll Call: John Eavis, Carol Griswold, Mark Luttrell, Pat O’Leary, Paul Paquette, Terry Rude, Herb Wottlin
 - Board members absent: Mark Dalpes, Benjamin Pister, Dan Walker
 - State Park Staff present: Jack Blackwell
 - Public members present: None
- C. Minutes Approval: Motion to approve Paul, 2nd Carol, approved unanimously.
- D. Agenda Changes and Approval: No changed, approved. Board recommended that agenda items be sent to Chair and Jack R two weeks before meeting, and sent out a week prior to meeting. Board should print and bring agenda to meeting for reference.
- E. Minutes-taker: Herb Wottlin

II. Public Comments/Presentations: No public present.

III. Reports:

- A. State Park Staff Report: Jack B stated that the legislative budget is greatly reduced from the initial budget. State Park budget cuts will total \$500,000 or more. Cuts have resulted in staff reductions and also affected other park areas within the state with closure and restrictions in operations. Future cuts in personnel may take place. State Parks obtains at least 45% of operating costs through user fees. These fees have been increased for parking, public use cabins and commercial licensing fees. The Valdez and Sitka ranger positions were cut. Jack R is the only ranger for all of Res. Bay and now PWS parks. Parks is still short of positions needing to be filled. Cuts could be upwards of \$6-700,000.00 for 2016. Jack B. reported that work on the bunkhouse continues and he thanked Paul for helping Andy with the project, which is going well. The CHSRA Management Plan is out of date and needs to be revised. **Motion to draft a letter to Director for consideration of the revision of the CHSRA Management Plan, including state marine parks and LPSRS introduced by Paul, 2nd by Carol, motion passed unanimously. Letter will be drafted and brought to the May CAB meeting.** Vacant property owned by DOT was recently identified at 707 Fifth for state parks shop, office, and storage as per our goals priority list. **Carol made a motion that CAB write letter to the Director regarding transfer of land from DOT to State Parks for office, shop, and long-term storage facility. Pat O. 2nd, motion carried unanimously.** Discussion about advertising for another board position to bring total to the maximum of 11. **Jack B suggested that it be tabled until fall when other positions are renewed/filled.**

B. Committee Reports:

- 1. Lands and Property Mark L. attended the Moose Pass KPB lands meeting. He informed board about the borough’s desire to obtain Bear Glacier and Thumb Cove parcels that are in our Goals to add to the Parks. Carol drafted a letter to the ASP director. **Motion approved**

by John, second by Pat, for the committee to revise the letter and send out a conceptual approval to the board next week via email.

2. **Education and Interpretation:** Carol presented the revised new informational bulletins that she has created for the LPSRS kiosks. The final drafts were sent by email and copies were available for viewing at meeting. Highlights of the changes were the complete text revisions, inclusion of LPSRS information, new photos, tide information, and designation of new trail names for clarity. The board all expressed thanks to Carol for her hard work. Members of the board should review bulletins and note any changes soon. **A motion to approve the new bulletins was introduced by Pat, 2nd by Terry, motion carried unanimously.**

Signs: Limited funding for new informational and directional signs is available. Committee members Carol and Terry presented a list of recommendations to Jack B last week, and shared it the board for comments.

3. **Public Use Cabins:** A possible site has been identified at Tonsina. Committee encouraged to develop a packet to submit for funding. Work continues by the cabin/use committee regarding site selection, design, and maintenance of possible new cabin.

4. **Legislative: John will email invitation to invite Representative Chenault and Senator Micciche to May board meeting.**

IV. Old Business :

1. **New letterhead:** designed by Carol was shown to the board and approved.
2. **Poems in Place:** Jack R will contact Wendy Erd for update, and hopefully there will be poems to review and approve at the May meeting.

V. New Business

1. **Selection of new chair and vice-chair:** Ben Pister nominated for Chair by Carol, Mark L. 2nd. Unanimous approval by board. John nominated for vice chair by Carol, 2nd Pat, unanimous approval by board.

2. **Board Goals** reviewed and updated. Several goals have been achieved. Carol moved that CHSRA be placed on the National Historic Register as # 16 on the goals list. Board approved. **Carol will send out revised goal list.**

3. Committees:

Lands and Property: Carol, Mark L, John

Education and Interpretation: Carol, Terry, Pat, Dan

Public Use Cabins: Paul, Herb, Terry

Legislative: Benjamin, Pat

4. **Agenda Template:** Board agreed to add E. Minutes-taker assignment to Agenda.

VI. Correspondence none

VII. Public Comment none

VIII. Adjournment

A. Board Comments Discussion mainly revolved around the prospects of new public use cabin location, designs, funding.

B. Date/Location of Next Meeting: May 12th 5:00 pm AVTEC

C. Motion to Adjourn 7 pm moved and approved