

## **Seward State Parks Citizens Advisory Board**

### Minutes

April 11, 2017 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

AVTEC Culinary Arts Building Banquet Room, 518 Third Ave, Seward

#### **1) Call to Order**

- a) Call to Order by Chair Griswold at 6:00 pm
- b) Minutes-taker Paul Paquette
- c) Roll Call: Carol Griswold, Paul Paquette, Dan Walker, Nathaniel Charbonneau, Stephanie Wright, Nick Jordan
- d) Board members absent: Mark Luttrell
- e) State Park Staff present: District Ranger Jack Ransom, Park Specialist Andy Bacon
- f) Public members present: Dave Leech, Michelle Keagle
- g) March 14, 2017 minutes approval: Nathaniel moved, Dan seconded, unanimous
- h) Agenda Changes and Approval: Agenda approved without changes

#### **2) Public Comments/Presentations: None**

#### **3) Reports:**

- a) State Park Staff Report by Jack Ransom:
  - i) Honda 2000 generator was stolen this winter from Tonsina upper parking lot toolshed at Lowell Point, a huge loss.
  - ii) Derby Cove PUC outhouse is in peril from flooding; Jack submitted a grant for more permanent fix while temporary measures are underway. Unfortunately, reservations had to be shut down until this is fixed.
  - iii) Outhouse at North Beach is also a problem but getting worked out. All outhouses in the park need updates and it's an issue that needs to be addressed because of high use during summer.
  - iv) Tonsina Cabin is moving along and construction should begin in early May. The seasoned 6" logs are being milled at Port McKenzie now. AVTEC students will build the bunk beds and a modular outhouse. An oil stove will be used instead of wood. An educational sign about the historic ghost forest is needed to protect them. Carol offered to work on that with Dan.
  - v) Some directional signs have been ordered.
  - vi) Some of the FEMA work done on the north end of the Tonsina Trail blew out in the last flood. Dave offered to help relocate the rocks with his backhoe when the snow melts.
- b) Staff report by Andy Bacon: interviewed and hired full trail crew. The leader is coming May 1, everyone else should be here by May 21. Lots of effort underway to restore Derby Cove outhouse.
- c) Committee Reports:
  - i) Lands and Property (Carol, Mark): Hollie Chalup at DNR responded to a letter about the Tonsina gold mine re: a potential permanent mineral closing

order and general bonding concerns. She will share any new information on these issues. The mining site is currently posted and closed.

- ii) Education and Interpretation (Carol, Dan): Eagle Watch published two photos of LPSRS in their March issue. More photos and articles are encouraged.
- iii) Public Use Cabins (Paul): Volunteers need to submit their liability waiver if they are going on the boat to help with the new Tonsina PUC in early May.
- iv) Local Issues: (Dan, Nick, Nathaniel). We should pursue snowplow money now for this year round, high use park. Dan moved, Nick seconded, unanimous that a letter be sent to include snow plowing of both lots in the budget. Dan will draft a letter to Acting Director Matt Wedeking, cc Jack Blackwell. Dan will also ask Metco about costs. Thanks given to Paul for the March 22 plowing of the lower parking lot, and to Dave for towing out a stuck vehicle and grading the lot recently. Paul is planning to enlarge lower parking lot by relocating some rocks with an excavator and trimming alders.

#### **4) Old Business**

- a) Latrine vent screens: Jack will pursue getting 4 for the park latrines from DNR.

#### **5) New Business**

- a) Board Contact Information was updated.
- b) Tide pool etiquette by school groups at Pinnacle Rock was discussed. Stephanie reported that National Park Service teaches tide pool etiquette and students on field trips to LPSRS are better supervised. She offered to try to get photos for Eagle Watch.

#### **6) Correspondence:** none

- 7) **Public Comment:** Dave Leech reported that trail sign by first gate keeps moving. It should be installed on right side nearest his driveway to reduce risk when people shoot at it. Michelle was glad to finally be able to attend a meeting.

#### **8) Adjournment**

- a) Board Comments: Welcome to the new board members. Paul noted how nice it is to have a quorum. Stephanie noted a meet and greet for Erick Veach, the new Kenai Fjords National Park supervisor, on April 20 at the NPS Visitor Center in the harbor. Nathaniel has 10 signed Volunteer Service Agreements and will get them to Jack.
- b) Date/Location of Next Meeting: May 9, 6 pm (note new time), AVTEC Culinary Arts ~ Note: last meeting until September 12!
- c) Motion to Adjourn by Dan, seconded by Nathaniel unanimous, at 7:40 pm.