



**Kachemak Bay State Park Citizen Advisory Board
PO Box 3248, Homer, AK 99603
Meeting Minutes
November 13th, 2019**

1. Call to Order:

- a. **Roll Call:** Board Members: Aron Peterson, Curtis Jackson, Glenn Green, Robert Ostrom, Jeffrey Lee, Carol Harding, Kristen Dixon, Marc Romano, Sera Baxter, Robert Archibald, Patrick Miller, Jonathan Sharp, and Kevin Walker.
State Park staff – Jason Okuly
Public Members – Jim Hebert, Derek Reynold, Janet Klein, Willy Dunn, Doug Reid, Nicky Szarzi, Jason Neely, Roger McCampbell, Stacey Bucklew and Bob Nathanson.
- b. **Minutes:** Aron Peterson made a correction to the minutes. Under number 9 on the last page it should read the sign at Cottonwood Eastland was pulled out. Minutes were approved as amended.
- c. **Agenda Changes:** The agenda was approved.

2. Public Comment

3. **Visitors:** Nicky Szarzi is the chair from the McNeil Committee of the Kachemak Nordic Ski Club. Nicky is a volunteer and lives in the area by Evaline SRA. The Ski Club is responsible for the maintenance of Evaline Trail both summer and winter though an MOU with Alaska State Parks. The club would like a snow cat that is approximately 16 feet wide to groom the trails for skate skiing. The club would like to run it around the perimeter of Evaline which require some brushing of the area near the trail. Nicky provided the board with diagrams of the areas along the trail that they would like to clear. Aron Peterson asked if there was any possibility to make the trail less than 16 feet wide? Nicky said that the machine is 16 feet wide so there is no room for adjustments. It was asked if the Ski club was looking for support for this project. Jason Okuly stated that State Parks would like to have input from the board on how State Parks should manage the lands. Part of the MOU with State Parks is that the Nordic Ski Club present these new ideas to the public to see if there are any comments or recommendation. Nicky also commented that this trail can be used both in the winter and the summer and have minimal impact on the landscape. Robert asked if this activity will be in agreement of the MOA with State Park and the Nordic Ski Trail.

Robert Archibald ask the board if they agree to write a letter of support for the Ski Club to widen the trail. The board was in agreement to have Robert write a letter of support.

4. Reports

A. Agency Reports

- a. State Parks-Jason Okuly- Ops Report 11.13.19
- Halibut Cove Lagoon Work Party – Raised ramp on public dock, worked on insulating the ranger station, finished repairs and extensions to the East Cabin roof.
 - Pulled and winterized the 8M Naiad
 - Winter host at Eastend Bunkhouse cleaning up the property, replacing furniture, improving the housing situation.
 - Maintenance crew from Kenai replaced our fuel tank due to dilapidated state.
 - MOU with Friends adding adopting the Sadie Trail for their upcoming RTP grant
 - MOU with the Kachemak Bay Research Reserve to conduct research in the Park.
 - Site visit with Jack Blackwell to inspect flooding at China Poot Lake Cabin.
 - Continue to work towards the 50th birthday celebration for Kachemak Bay State Park, Bear Creek Winery has the celebratory wine available, also at the Grog Shop. Meeting with Homer High School Art teacher to discuss student creating banners to hang around Homer. Official 50th celebration will be at the SPARC building. Continually looking for volunteers to help.
 - Completed interviews for Homer PR I position, offered job and applicant accepted. Applicant will start February 1st and be in training until September 2020. His name is Carter Forney, he has previously worked at Denali State Park.
 - Bike Club Halloween Ride at Dimond Creek – 20 to 30 people. Bike club is receiving community assistance funding from Diamond Ridge Community to improve the trail with gravel and signage.

B. Committee Reports

a. Friends' Report- The Friends group met on the 4th of November.

- There was a presentation by Thelma Gower regarding opportunity of raising money. It was very informative.
- There was also a very long presentation from Roger McCampbell regarding the 50th anniversary celebration for Alaska State Parks. Roger explained the upcoming events and some of the 50th anniversary items for sales such as the coffee. Special Packets will be marketed to help raise funds for the anniversary. Contact Roger MacCampbell or Captain's Coffee for details, the custom Bear Creek wine and other merchandise that may be available.
- The annual Friends meeting will be on December 9th at Islands and Ocean Visitor center from 5 pm to 8 pm. It is a potluck and you need to be a member to vote for the three-vacant seat on the board. The seat open are Mako Haggerty, Robert Archibald and Dave Brann.
- There was plenty of conversation about the RPT grant that Kevin walker submitted on behalf of the Friends Group.
- The website will be updated soon and there will be a presentation about that at the membership meeting.
- There was also lengthy discussion pertaining to the land available to the Saddle Trail.
- The Friends Board also encourages everyone – on the Kachemak Citizen Advisory board to participate in the 50th Anniversary celebration of Kachemak Bay State Park.

b. Kachemak Bay 50th Anniversary celebration. Roger stated that there is a numerous number of things happening for the celebration. Coffee Mugs and beer steins. We have two prototypes and are waiting for a sponsor to fund making many more. They will retail for \$30-40 per stein. Bear Creek Winery: Is producing a Kachemak Blueberry Wine. It will retail at the Grog Shop and Winery for at least \$24.00 per bottle, of which Friends of Kachemak Bay State Park (FKBSD) will receive \$1.00. A card will go with each bottle with educational note about the Park and anniversary. Bear Creek is also giving FKBSD two cases of wine. We cannot sell it, but will use bottles as gifts or rewards. History of the Park: Janet Klein and Dave

Brann are working on a complete History of the Park. Both geologically and human. A timeline of events so to speak. One idea is a large round from a dead Sitka Spruce. Captains Coffee has generously partnered with us to produce at least two grinds or roasts of coffee, with our own labels. We have contracted with a local graphic designer to produce at least two art works for the front labels. One will be in a gold bag (for golden anniversary) and be the 'Anniversary Brew' with an artist rendition of a Park Scene. The other will be in the blue bag and be the "Grewing Grind". Each bag will have another label on back with a brief educational message regarding the Park or subject matter. Our logo will go on each bag. Each bag will retail for 13-15\$ of which the FK BSP will receive 4-7\$. We may produce two other roasts, 'The Ranger Roast' and either the 'Goat Rope Blend' or 'Trail Crew Mix'. This coffee will be sold at Captains Coffee, Safeway and other outlets and could be sold at various events. Lance Prouse, owner of Captains Coffee will manage the accounting and desires to continue this beyond next year. May 9th: Big Birthday Party: we decided that the day KBSP became law is when we should celebrate. It coincides with Shorebird Festival. Most likely we will hold this event at the SPARC, but maybe the High School Commons. Guest Speakers, dignitaries, hot dogs and burgers, ice cream and cake and possibly a silent auction. Pancake Breakfast is that day as well, so our logistics and need for volunteers is tremendous. July 4: We would like to be in the Parade: We would like to have the LC Phoresy towed by a Park Truck with as many current and ex VIPS, ACC, Techs and Rangers involved, each with a theme about the Park. There are many more events happening and if you are interested in participating in the event contact Roger McCampbell.

c. Trail Committee-Marc Romano Spent the month informally polling people as to how the trail committee would work. There was not a good date that worked before this Citizen advisory board meeting. Marc decided to propose the date to the board first and he recommended November 20th, 2019 at 5:30 pm. Brain storm ideas as to what the committee would like and what the committee would like to make as their priority.

Aron Peterson and Robert Archibald are both interested but cannot attend the 20th meeting. Kristen Dixon asked for clarification about the committee. Marc felt that the committee would be able to work with groups and concerned citizens, clarify some of the problems and vetting them before bringing them to the full board.

Marc recommended to put the committee on hold until March when State Park Technician is back on the job in March. The committee can work with Eric on priorities and the best plan of action on a specific topics/projects.

Marc Romano will attend several meetings such as the Friends of Kachemak Bay, the Water Trail and other to determine what issue are out there when it comes to trails in the State Park. Marc will bring a proposal back in January 2020 and report to the board his findings.

Jonathan Sharp went to the Kachemak Nordic Ski Club meeting in October meeting. It was brought to the club's attention that there was concern that there was no funding for summer maintenance of the trail. It was determined that this should be put on the December agenda for the board and a copy of the MOU and possible the deed for the property will be available for review.

5. Old Business

a. Kachemak Bay State and Wilderness Park management plan update: The Commissioner's office is currently reviewing two permit appeals that were submitted by Cook Inlet Aquaculture. The two appeals are placing the net pens in Tutka Bay and the disposal of fish carcasses in Tutka Bay. The management plan will not be released until those appeals have been determined and incorporated into the plan

- b. Update on ILMA Cottonwood-Eastland: Jason Okuly reported that State Parks is pursuing the ILMA but that DNR lands charges for these agreements. Matt Wedeking the Chief of operations is attempting to put all the new and updated ILMA's on a list. Once this list is completed Matt would like to make a proposal to DNR Lands to charge one fee for all of them on the list.

6. New Business:

- a. Bylaws Update: Patrick Miller and Jonathon Sharp review the bylaws and made a few minor changes to the process of the appointments to the board to match those of the Kenai River Special Management Area Board. Patrick asked what agencies can be on the board? Jason recommended anyone the board would like to have, such as Fish and Game, The Research Reserve and even HEA. The board did not feel they needed a nominating committee. Under number 7 they would like to add that the vice chair can run the meeting when the chair is not present. Carol noted a typo in number 1 member should be members. Patrick Miller will make the changes and bring it back to the December meeting. Patrick Miller made a motion to except the bylaws as written with corrections
- b. Proposal to form a Habitat Committee to consider Flora and Fauna habitats of the park as well as consistency issues pertaining to the cooperative agreement for the CHA- Nancy Hillstrand Nancy will be chair and Carol and Kristen will be on the committee.

Carol makes a motion to form a Habitat committee to consider flora and fauna of the park.
Kristen seconds the motion.

Passed unanimously.

7. Action Items

- a. Eric submitted two RTP Grant proposal and would like to have letters of support for Park Trail work from the board.
- b. Kevin Walker submitted a Friends application for an RPT Grant and is requesting a letter of support from the board.

Curtis Jackson made the motion to approve all three letters of support.
Carol Harding seconds the motion.

Board passed it unanimously.

8. Public Comment

- 9. **Comments of Board Members** Carol had a correction in the minutes that was addressed and would like to change the time on top of the agenda to reflect 5:30 pm to 7:pm.

10. Adjournment