

**Kachemak Bay State Park
Advisory Board Minutes
Wednesday October 10, 2012**

- I.
- A. **Members Present:** David Taylor, Glenn Green, Willie Dunn, Mike Flora and Steve Schultz.
Staff Present: Chief Ranger Roger MacCampbell, Superintendent Jack Blackwell and Support Staff Pam Russell.
 - B. **The Minutes:** Correction to the October 10, 2012 was on page, letter to Paul Seaton, Roger is advising Mako on the main bullet points for the letter. The minutes were approved as amended.
 - C. **The Agenda** from the October 10, 2012 was approved as written.
 - D. **Correspondence:** None
 - E. **Introduction of Visitors :** Robin and George Nice, Pete and Elaine Velsko, David Martindell, Carol Harding, Bruce and Astina Friend, Randy and Bernadette Arsenault, Andrew Peter, Heidi Herzog, Gigi Banas, Melinda Nelson, Chris Bandas and Bill Nelson
- All visitors present had an opportunity to comment on the proposed activity of helicopter skiing in Kachemak Bay State Park or Kachemak Bay State Wilderness Park.

II. **Committee Report**

- a. **Operations Reports**-Chief Ranger Roger MacCampbell gave a brief report on the activities for the last month. This Cottonwood Eastland survey for the road access easement is currently being worked on. One of the issues is the grade and adjustments need to be made before the survey can be finalized.

The Diamond Creek State Park Area spruce bark beetle kill mitigations is completed. Some of the wood from the area will be used for a bridge in the park and for chainsaw training. Approximately seven people from the Nordic ski club walk around to look for possible future ski trails. Some rocks will be placed so that visitors will not be able to drive all the way down to the beach. Roger would like to plant some Birch and Willow samplings and would like to have some volunteers to help such as a Boy Scout group. Willie Dunn asked if the rocks were going to be removed from the ditches along the road. Roger answered yes.

Willie Dunn also asked if vacated the easement and then develop a Diamond Creek State Recreation Area management plan.

Letter of grant request for the Anchor River trail and Roger also sent a letter to the nomad shelters regarding their 2012 operations.

A complaint was received about the closing of the Kachemak Bay crack climbing area. Willie had a complaint that the place where the rocks were falling was unsafe and that the place where you climb up is causing rocks to fall and making the area a safe. The area immediate under the climbing area needed to be close until the area has been safe for all users. Another complaint was received regarding visitors leaving shot gun shells on the ground

The water trail is moving forward. There has been several meeting regarding the water trail and a request for proposals regarding a website design with an interactive map has been requested, this would also allow comments to be submitted.

Roger commented that they would like improve the interpretive area with information and to improve the restroom facilities. They are looking for a panoramic interpretive board to explain all the mountain pikes and sites that are viewed from the area.

Jack Blackwell state park currently has a interdepartmental management assignment referred to as a ILMA to manage. Since about 2006 the department has 2 trails that run into the Caribou Hills, the Clam Gulch trail and the Centennial trail. Parks should be inspecting and maintaining the trails. The state currently has a grant to groom the trails. So Jack Blackwell is currently seeking a grant to purchase 2 snow machines and a trailer. It would be helpful if the advisory board would write a letter of support in obtaining the grant. This may also provide additional work for the rangers that are ten months to possible twelve months.

- b. **Friends Report**-Willie commented that the organization applied for a \$5000 grant for developing the organization. This would include developing a website to get information out. The organization meetings are the first Monday of each month. It was also recommended that the organization set up a booth at the Nutcracker fair in December to work on acquiring more new members.

III Old Business

- a. **Board member applicants**-Jack commented that we need to interview new applicants and would like to set up interviews next week or two. One new member attended the meeting; Carol Harding has lived in Homer since 1994 and has worked with the Homer Council of the Arts, the Land Trust, Cook Inlet Keeper and US Fish and Wildlife Service. She is currently working for Wrangles Saint Alias and very interested in exhibit design and is an interpretive specialist. She is an outdoor enthusiast enjoying such activities as hiking, skiing, biking and canoeing.
- b. **Letter to Paul Seaton**-Roger is going to work with David Taylor on completing this letter.
- c. **Heli Skiing Proposal**- Willie Dunn commented that the board has received comments for the last 3 months on this issue and agree that the board cannot support this issue and that there needs to be a lot more information. Willie Dunn made a motion that the Kachemak Bay State Recreation Advisory board recommends that Alaska State Park does not allow Heli-skiing in Kachemak Bay State Park and Kachemak Bay Wilderness State Park. The board recommends against. Mike Flora seconds the motion. Mike Flora supported the motion and agree that there are many other places that people can go heli-skiing and not to have it in the Kachemak Bay State or Wilderness park. Glenn commented the park was set up in 1970 for use for the public and we need to make the park accessible to the public. Limiting the park to one or two activities the whole park should be accessible to all activities. Steve Schultz agrees that we need a place to be quiet and agree with the public and is oppose to helicopter - skiing. The motion was voted on and there was 4 the supported the motion and one abstained.

IV New Business

IV. Board Comments

III. ADJOURNMENT

Date/Agenda of next meeting December 12, 2012