

Seward State Parks Citizen Advisory Board

MINUTES

Wednesday, December 11th, 2019 5:30-7:00pm
AVTEC Culinary Arts Academy Banquet Room, 518 Third Ave

I. Call to Order

- A. Call to Order: 7:03 pm
- B. Minutes taker: Paul Paquette
- C. Roll Call: Carol Griswold, Nick Jordan, Mark Luttrell, Paul Paquette, Cliff Reid, Tess Tulley
- D. Board members absent: none
- E. State Park Staff: District Ranger Jack Ransom
- F. Public Present: none
- G. Minutes Approval for Oct 16, (no meeting in November): unanimous.
- H. Agenda Changes and Approval: no changes, unanimous approval

II. Public Comments: none

II. Board Contact and Correspondence: none

III. Reports:

A. Staff Report and Discussion

- i. Jack talked about getting more committee members and how we might increase board membership through different trail groups in the Seward area.
- ii. 50th anniversary of State Parks is coming up. Board formed a new committee with Tess to plan a Seward event at Branson Pavilion in May.
- iii. A new State Parks decal with a wolf howling at the moon and a '77 camper truck will be available to the public
- iv. Jack will be sure Metco still has the contract to plow and sand the upper parking lot.
- v. The Governor's budget came out today.
- vi. Jack Blackwell will be at the January 15th meeting.
- vii. The Lowell Point Community Council meeting is January 16 at noon at the Penny Hardy Community Center re: parking issues; staff from the Kenai Peninsula Borough will also attend. Ideas included RFP for a shuttle service, commercial off-site parking, new park parking lot design with smaller curbs and striping, Millers paved parking for trailers, request Miller's tractors drive slowly before 6 am to minimize disturbance.
- viii. Judy Antensen retired, leaving Judy Bittner even more short-staffed re: nomination of the Fort McGilvray main structures to the historic register.
- ix. The \$100K Fort interpretive signs from the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area are done and will be installed this summer. Carol was disappointed that the Board was not allowed to review the final drafts.

B. Committee Reports

- 1. Tonsina Mining Issue (Cliff): Cliff visited on November 18 and took photos. He moved gas cans and other items away from rising Tonsina Creek water. No Argo seen. There's a new

beach site 200 yards farther south with abandoned property in the Park above the ordinary mean tide. He feels that the miner is in clear violation of the claim permit with gas cans and trash all over the place. He found the permit on-line and contacted Cliff Larson at DMLW who referred him to Holly Chalup, but no response received.

2. Local issues: (Nick, Paul) Update to Lowell Point Road construction: project is on hold pending FEMA paperwork.

3. Anniversary Events Planning Committee formed with Tess and...

Tess will research possible Branson Pavilion dates for a hotdog picnic for the Alaska State Parks 50th Anniversary. Carol offered to design banners.

4. Website and Interpretation (Carol): The website has some updates but needs a lot of revisions. She resubmitted her extensive comments of the website and hopes the Board will review it and approve it at the next meeting for submittal to ADNR.

V. Old Business:

1. Lowell Point Community Council meeting 1/16/2020 concerning parking issues on Pinnacle Drive and Beach Drive ocean and park access.
2. Board member recruitment (Carol): Nick will post notices on the Facebook Trails Report, Cliff will post on FB Trail Runners, Carol will post on Swardsnews.com.
3. Friends of Parks: support for statewide organization or a local Friends group under the umbrella of an existing 501(c) 3 organization like RBCA. The Friends group in Iowa was mentioned as a model supported by former and current Division Directors Ethan Tyler Ricky Gease.

VI. New Business:

1. Discuss 2019-2020 Goals (Carol) Add archiving PUC Journals. This item was again postponed to the next meeting.
2. Board discussed and moved unanimously to automatically record meetings when state park staff other than the District Ranger and the Parks Technician are present. Other meetings may be recorded at any time by anyone.
3. December 18th Statewide Citizens Advisory Board meeting call in. Paul was appointed as the representative to this teleconference and will report at the next meeting.

VII. Public Comments: none

VII. Adjournment

- A. Board Comments: Paul and Nick's terms are expiring in January; they were encouraged to reapply.
- B. Date/Location of next meeting: AVTEC on Wednesday January 15, 2020 at 5:30 pm.
- C. Motion to Adjourn: Unanimous at 7:38 pm