

Seward State Parks Citizens Advisory Board

Minutes
September 2, 2014
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Seward Library

I. Call to Order

II. Board members present: Mark Dalpes, John Eavis, Carol Griswold, Dan Walker, Mark Luttrell, Pat O’Leary

III. Staff present: Tom Kain, Jack Blackwell

IV. Public present: Lynn Hohl

V. Public comments: None

VI. Operations Update:

Tom gave a Powerpoint overview of the summer operations.

- This summer there were two ACC positions working on the Seward state park trails. These positions were funded by the Recreation Trails Program.
- Projects included major cabin maintenance, and trail work as well as improvements at CHSRA.

Jack updated members on the following item:

- At the beginning of summer, a major wildfire occurred on the Kenai Peninsula. At times up to six state rangers assisted.
- Ranger Jack Ransom transferred to Seward in July.
- Tom Kain has accepted the Haines Ranger position and is transferring to Haines later this month.
- The Seward Park Specialist (8 month season) will be filled later this winter.
- The board agreed to write a letter of recognition for Tom and will consider working on a proclamation from the city thanking him for his service moved.

VII. Tonsina Creek Watershed Update:

Members discussed the two abandon mining claims in the Tonsina Creek drainage, upstream from the state park. Members are concerned that there may be hazardous materials on site. The claims have not been mined in years and there is agreement that the sites should be cleaned up.

VIII. 2014 Citizen Advisory Board Recap:

Seward State Parks Citizens Advisory Board

The Seward board was very successful in its first year. Accomplishments include establishing bylaws, identifying priorities and goals, and helping educate the community about the state park needs in Seward.

IX. 2015 Goals:

John suggested the board add short term and long term goals to the October agenda

X. Committee Updates & Community Recruitment:

Jack said that this fall Parks will advertise recruitment for the Seward Board.

Members agreed these people would serve on the following committees formed in May and will meet to discuss priorities:

- a.) Lands – Carol, Mark, John
- b.) Public Use Cabins – Terry, Mark, Denise
- c.) Interpretation/Education – Pat, Dan, Carol
- d.) Legislative – Ben, John

XI. Board member comments:

- Carol suggested adding the mission statement to the bylaws and members supported this. This be addressed at the next meeting.

XII. Public comment:

Lynn said she attended this meeting to learn more about the board and asked about the status of mooring buoys in the marine parks.

XIII. Next meeting time/ adjourn meeting:

October 14, 2014