



**Kachemak Bay State Parks Citizens' Advisory Board
95 Sterling Hwy, Suite 2
Homer, Alaska 99603
Draft Advisory Board Minutes**

January 10, 2024

In Person + Virtual Meeting at I & O Seminar Room

1. Call to Order at 5:30 pm.

Roll Call – Present: Robert Archibald, Sue Christiansen, Nancy Hillstrand, Curtis Jackson Kevin Walker, Kirsten Dixon, Louis Dupree, Meg Cicciarella, Yarrow Hinnant.

Superintendent Hans Rinke

District Ranger Jason Okuly

Not in Attendance – Steven Payton, Glenn Seaman (excused)

Public in Attendance: Dave Brann, Nicole Szarzi

2. Public Comment

None

3. Visitors – None

4 State Park Reports

- a. Hans Rinke reported on the Saddle Trail Parcel – the deed has been conveyed to DNR from the Conservation Fund.
- b. The DNR / DPOR has extended the public scope for UAVs (DRONES) and PWCs (Jet Skis) in all State Parks. Both Drones and PWCs are managed by department regulation and policy. KBSP and Kenai River Special Management Area are restricting personal watercraft presently.

- c. Senator Matt Claman is submitting a bill for nontraditional vehicle rental tax (Turo and others) where private parties can rent directly from vehicle owners. We received significant funding from vehicle rental tax (\$6 million last year). DPOR splits the car rental tax with State DOT.
- d. Question from Board and the public (Nikki) – Is there any development on obtaining an outhouse in Eveline? Hans will report back on the status. Sue – Asked about Crooked Creek allocation to reallocate to Eveline. Hans will follow up. Sue Christenson – asked if written minutes could be posted on the website (not just the audio version). Hans can facilitate that happening.

5. Ops Report – Jason Okuly

- a. Diamond Creek Bike Club has access to plowing equipment and has plowed that area and groomed winter trail.
- b. Cottonwood Eastland – equestrian group showed up at 4:00 pm Trail Meeting. Good to see groups lining up.
- c. Officer Carter Forney is switching roles with Jason Okuly for the summer season. Jason will be in charge of ops in KBSP and Forney will be on roadside duty up in Kasilof.
- d. Inspected Shafford Heights Trail and homeowners. Parks issued a permit for a helicopter to land at multiple pads in the park to repair HEA power lines.
- e. The Ski Club meeting was contentious about dogs on the trail. Because Eveline is a State Recreation Site and the Ski Clubs has an agreement for grooming winter trails, Parks will continue participating.

6. Trails Report

- a. Discussion on parking at Cottonwood / Eastland. – Cameale - The equestrian group attended the meeting, and it was a good meeting and lots of interaction.
- b. Sue Christiansen – Asked about a parking lot for Cottonwood Eastland Park Unit. Jason doesn't have forward movement information on this.

7. Friends of the Park

- a. Fundraising dessert auction \$2039.00 split with Water Trails: gourmet hot dogs and a good turnout.
- b. Friends have \$36,000 in the bank account going into the New Year.
- c. Outhouses are constructed and waiting for directions on where to place them.

d. Friends have a new board member, Jim Herbert.

8. Water Trail – Dave Brann:

a. Kids Across the Bay worked well last summer. We set a goal of 50 families last summer and exceeded that. Received grant money from foundations and grants.

b. We had some kayak classes in May and will try to do that again. There are 43 water trail sites. We want to connect with private water trail sites.

c. Checking in with Seldovia and other sites this summer. Pre-season, mid-season, and post-season.

d. Out at Mile 0 of the water trail on the Homer Spit there are some sign structures that need to be replaced.

e. Worked with Friends on the Kids Across the Bay. Plan on that program again.

Eveline State Rec. Site – Nicole Szarzi: Brushing the trees and managing snow. Signs are up requiring dogs to be on leash. Working on the outhouse door. She wants to rent an excavator to do some work this summer.

Habitat – Nancy was not present.

9. Old Business

a. Hans contacted LANDS regarding ILMA twice. Talked to State Parks Lands Manager Rachael Longacre. He will continue to reach out until he gets an update.

b. Jetskis – Waiting for the judge to rule on reconsideration decision.

c. State Parks is conducting public scoping for Jet Ski interest in ALL Alaska State Parks. Our resolutions include leaving the Parks as they are. Does the Board want to change our resolutions?

Sue motioned to leave the board's comments/resolutions as is, and Robert can send them as is.

Curtis Jackson seconded the motion. No objections, Motion passed and Robert will send resolutions to DNR / DPOR Scoping Team.

10. New Business

a. DNR – passed the proposal to move traps off further away from existing trails.

b. Sue Christiansen motioned to send a letter to Chris Little thanking him for the work on the Saddle Trail acquisition and the donation to the Park. Curtis Jackson volunteered to write a letter

c. Discussion about the non-traditional car rental tax bill 127. CAB is in support of this bill. Robert will construct a letter of support. Curtis Jackson motioned to send a letter of support and Kevin seconded.

11. Board Comments

Kirsten – Would like to recognize Chris Little and the Conservation Fund for donating land to the Park.

Curtis – Search and rescue in Kachemak Bay – David Chambers EMS in Seldovia crafting a list of resources to bring our way. Taking a wilderness medical tech class is the hope.

Aron - (inaudible)

Kevin – (inaudible)

Nancy – (may be on line but not able to speak)

Yarrow – On line but no comments

Sue – no comments

Meg – (inaudible)

Louie – No comments

12. Adjourned Meeting at 7:45pm

February 14, 2024 next meeting

Transcribed by *Kirsten Dixon*.