

MINUTES FOR THE OCTOBER 2020 MEETING

- The October 20, 2020 meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM in the Totem Restoration Building.
- Advisory Board members present: Leslie Jackson, Floyd McCellan, Richard Hauver, and Teri Hoyt. Arika Paquette, Caroline Seabright and Amanda Kiely joined by phone.
- Staff present: Aaron Ostby
- The agenda was approved
- The May 2020 meeting minutes were approved
- Correspondence: None
- Persons to be heard: None

STAFF REPORT:

Aaron Ostby reported:

- Overview of summer operations, different park use, and issues related to COVID 19.
- Junk vehicles left at Refuge Cove.
- Did maintenance at Grindall Island PUC
- Completed trail grant for ADA and access improvements at Settlers Cove PUC
- Started trail grant project for Lunch Creek Falls stair replacement. Project will shut down for winter and be completed in the spring.
- Have park hosts at Totem Bight and Settlers Cove through the winter. A lot of park maintenance projects were completed this summer due to good staffing and volunteer assistance.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Leslie Jackson reported:

- Commented that it was good to see and hear everyone again. Glad to have the Parks available all summer to get out and enjoy.

KASPER REPORT:

- Planning a meeting with Mary for when Brad is in Ketchikan next week to talk about better coordination between KASPER, Parks and the Board. Spoke with Mary last month regarding KASPER sponsoring a memorial on Lunch Creek.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Park Events and Programs:** Leslie commented on the Pandemic's impact the CAB's ability to conduct park programs. Suggested coming up with an alternative for Light the Bight this year, using social distancing, masks and no food. There was a general discussion regarding a time to put the lights up. Arika suggested partnering with another organization and spreading out the light display. Teri commented that the First Day Hike might be an event that could be done with social distancing. There will be further discussion at the next meeting.
- B. New Public Use Cabin:** Staff was not sure about the status of the proposed PUC at Settlers Cove and will follow up with the Design and Construction Dept. There was a discussion regarding Betton Island as a possible location for a future PUC.

- C. Guard Island SMP and New Parks:** USCG never followed up with land management status of Guard Island. More information is needed. There has been some local interest in creating a park using the DNR land located north of Mt. Point. The land could be managed by the Ketchikan Gateway Borough or State Parks. There are few parks on that end of the Ketchikan road system.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. 2021 Trail Grant Application:** Aaron explained the proposed grant for the replacement for improvements on the Totem Bight trail system and asked the Board for support. Leslie will draft a letter of support for the grant application. Deadline is Oct. 23. There was an overview of possible future grant proposals.
- B. Project Plans and Goals:** Leslie discussed the changes in plans due to COVID 19. Teri asked about how COVID impacted park operations this season. Staff commented on different park use patterns, less issues at Totem Bight and more issues in other parks. Projects were accomplished at Totem Bight this summer that could not have been done during a regular summer season. The Board discussed the future for the land adjacent to Settlers Cove, Guard Island and new Cabins. Leslie suggested getting cost estimates for cabin materials so we knew how much funding we would need.
- C. Future Meeting Locations:** The Library is still closed to public meetings. Teri suggested continuing using the Restoration Building. Leslie will check to see if the Borough Assembly Chambers could be reserved.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- A. Light the Bight Planning

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm. The next meeting was scheduled for November 10, 2020