

MINUTES FOR THE OCTOBER 2019 MEETING

- The October 7, 2019 meeting was called to order at 5:15 PM at the Ketchikan Public Library conference room.
- Advisory Board members present: Leslie Jackson, Caroline Seabright, Teri Hoyt, Rick Hauver, Amanda Kiely, Adam Minshal, Floyd McCellan, Shelly Acteson and Arika Paquette
- Staff present: Aaron Ostby
- The agenda was approved by Leslie seconded by Amanda
- The minutes from the September 2019 meeting was approved by Amanda and seconded by Leslie.
- Correspondence: Mail received at the park office for the KASPER group
- Persons to be heard: Mary Kowalczyk (KASPER chair)

STAFF REPORT:

Aaron Ostby reported:

- Ketchikan Indian Community members fee exemption request will likely be denied. No official response yet.
- New Hosts at Settlers Cove, campground is officially closed for the winter season.
- Doug Drexel, maintenance journeyman was in Ketchikan last week. Totem pole maintenance and inspections were done. General condition of many poles are poor and need work. Also, looked at facility needs at Settlers Cove, such as the failed water tank and the water fall viewing stairs. The Stairs may be closed if not replaced soon. This section of trail may be included in the upcoming FLAP grant project, though it is not on the project plan.
- RTP project for ADA and access improvements for the Settlers PUC underway.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

Teri Hoyt reported:

- Thanked Floyd and Aaron for attending the Rotary meeting with her. Commented on the Stairs project at Refuge Cove and thanking Rotary at their meeting.
- Requested information on the water tank replacement. Staff is currently looking at options, the buried tank will not be replaced due to the cost.

KASPER REPORT:

Mary Kowalczyk reported:

- Gave a background on the reason the organization was created and its purpose. Circulated a copy of the first page of bylaws for reference. Submitted a list of projects / programs funded and future proposed programs.
- By Board request, listed the members of KASPER as: Tina Peckham, Myrna Losquadro (treasurer/secretary) and Mary Kowalczyk (president)

There was a discussion regarding funding programs and fundraising. Teri noted that most events didn't result in much revenue generation and suggested getting KASPER set up on the "Pick-Click-Give" program. Floyd requested more information about the groups purpose beyond fundraising. Mary highlighted the different programs that KASPER supports in Ketchikan State Parks. Aaron noted that KASPER would be receiving additional income from firewood donations this year and asked about the group holding funds for a CAB sponsored project, specifically if the CAB raises money with a single project in mind, such as a PUC, would KASPER hold the funds and distribute them directly back for the project? Mary was unsure if money could be


specifically held for a CAB project, she commented that she will need to check if KASPER could be a “fiscal-holder” for a single project. Teri asked about the best way to communicate with KASPER. Mary was not sure if KASPER members would be available to attend CAB meetings. Aaron suggested that a CAB member could periodically attend KASPER meetings and act as a liaison between the groups instead. Floyd volunteered to attend the next meeting. Mary commented that there wasn’t a meeting date set yet and they would be working on a confidential project. Floyd asked if he would be allowed to go if the meeting was confidential, adding that he has over 30 years’ experience working with highly classified material. Teri asked the KASPER group to assist with the Totem Bight Christmas lights.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Strategic Planning: Goals, Projects, Events and Legislative Contacts:** Amanda spoke regarding fundraising for a new Cabin, through an event like the forage fest suggested by Leslie at the previous meeting. Amanda asked Mary if KASPER would be willing to work with the CAB on the event and hold the funds for the project. Mary was not sure. Amanda asked if the CAB was interested, noting that if this was pursued, planning would need to start in the spring. Aaron commented that the only issue would be if Ketchikan did get the grant funding for the proposed new PUC. There was then an explanation about the history of the new cabin’s funding source. If funding for the new cabin did materialize and separate money was also raised, that money could still be used for a cabin at one of the nearby Marine Parks. Mary will respond back as to if KASPER could hold money for the project. September was suggested as the best time of year for the event. Settlers Cove was suggested as the location. There will be further discussion at the next meeting. There was additional discussion about the condition of the Lunch Loop trail and the upcoming improvement project at Settlers Cove. The damaged bridge on the Lunch Creek trail was also discussed. There was a discussion about the deferred maintenance needs of the Parks, specifically the poor condition of the Totem Poles at Totem Bight SHP. Totem Bight visitor counts for the 2019 season were presented. There was concern about the amount of revenue generated vs how little money was being invested back into the park. There was also a discussion about the long-term lost revenue from declining commercial tours if the poles are not preserved in addition to the safety and cultural resource protection issues. The board decided to contact local representatives regarding the issue. Leslie volunteered to contact Rep. Ortiz and Sen. Steadman.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Guard Island:** Aaron commented that Shelly had some good information on the property history. Mary gave an overview on the history of State Parks attempting to make the property a Marine Park. The primary issue with Guard Island becoming a Marine Park was the cost of asbestos abatement and the property management transfer to a separate non-profit. There will be further discussion at the next meeting.
- B. USCG collaboration / Grindall Island Mooring Buoy Repairs:** Aaron explained that he had contacted the Ketchikan Base Commander, requesting assistance with the Grindall Is. buoy. The USCG would be willing to inspect and repair the mooring buoy but State Parks would need to provide the materials. We are currently looking at outside sources for material donations. Amanda requested information on the amount of use Grindall Island receives. Terri commented on the importance of the Mooring Buoy for the safety of boaters crossing Clarence Strait. Adam suggested having the Coast Guard do an inspection, without doing a repair so we know what the needs and material costs are prior to doing a full service.



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Noting that it will be easier to fundraise if we know what the needs are. Staff will ask if the USCG will just do an inspection to see what is needed.

C. Totem Bight Christmas Lights: It was decided that Saturday Dec 7th would be the best date to install the lights and Sunday the 8th for the proposed lighting. There will be further planning at the next meeting.

D. Election of Officers: Postponed until the next meeting.

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:

- A: Event Planning
- B: Guard Island
- C: Christmas Lights
- D: Election of Officers

The meeting adjourned at 6:35pm. The next meeting was scheduled for November 12, 2019