

Kachemak Bay State Parks Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2017

1. Call to Order:

- a. Roll Call: Board Members - Lindsay Wolter, Beaver Nelson, Glenn Green, Aron Peterson, Steve Schultz, Mako Haggerty, Carol Harding, Jeff Lee, Sera Baxter, Robert Ostrom, Nancy Hilstrand and Stan Lefton was on the phone; Staff – Pam Russell, Jason Okuly, Brad Garasky and Eric Clarke;

Public –Janet Klein, Alan Parks, Rick Arnes, Gilda Hines and Mr. Allardice

- b. Minutes: Mako Haggerty added that he had attended the February meeting but was not listed. The minutes were approved as amended.
- c. Agenda Changes/Approval: The agenda was approved as written.
- d. Public Comment/Presentation: None.

2. Correspondence –A letter was submitted to Governor Bill Walker about the permitting by DNR for the expansion of the Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery operated by Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA). The board received a letter from Homer City Manager Katy Koester in response to the use of LED lights at the boat harbor to meet Dark Sky standards. The request for bid encouraged contractors to consider different alternatives to include lower glare and cost.

3. Committee Reports

- a. Staff gave the following update. Jason reported that Brad Garasky and Eric Clarke are back from leave. Jason attending a Cross Boundaries Landscape Management conference that was hosted by the Kenai Watershed Forum on April 2nd 2017 in Soldotna. Jason gave a presentation of the Kachemak Bay State and Wilderness Park is currently under review and that the plan would be available for public comment in late April. The Kachemak Bay State and Wilderness Park Management Plan is currently in agency review draft form. The planning team is reviewing the draft and the public draft will be available around April 23rd, with a public comment meeting scheduled for May 8th in Homer, May 18 in Anchorage and comments are due by June 30, 2017. The board is going to request more time for public comment to the planning team. Cook Inlet Aquaculture has selected site “C” for the net pens in Tutka Bay, which is the head of Tutka Bay.

Nancy Hillstrand recommended that every board member create five whereas and submit them to Lindsay, who will compile them and pass them to Jeff Lee. The whereas are due on April 23rd to Lindsay Wolter. Lindsay recommended that the board create a sub-committee to prepare board comments to the proposed management plan for full board consideration.

Brad and Eric are currently working on getting the seasonal staff hired. They have currently hired an ACC position and a Conservation Core member. Staff is currently working out the details of what this position will be in required to do. Work will continue on Saddle and Moose trail with the grant money that was acquired and with volunteers there is hope to start work on Grace Ridge trail. A brusher training will be provided for volunteers and possible other agencies.

Brad is working with the Nordic Ski club to get qualified as a groomer for Eveline ski trails.

- b. Friend's Report- Mako Haggerty reported that the Friend's group has met twice since the February Board meeting. The group has \$14,000.00 dollars in the fund. Trails Day is Saturday June 3rd, 2017 and it was determined that the volunteers will be working on Glacier Spit and South Grace trails. The group would like to proceed with trying to put some mooring buoys at some of the trail heads. Eric Clarke learned from Kris Holderied that NYMPS divers in Anchorage will be working on a project evaluating the sea bottom for invasive species. They may be able to do this in Homer, which would also be an opportunity to perform buoy inspections and maintenance on buoys installed in Kachemak Bay. The pancake breakfast is May 6th (volunteers from the board are needed) with the Friendship Walk on May 7th. The Otter Eye event has been cancelled for lack of participants. On April 21 and 22nd, 2017 there will be a kayaking fishing symposium that is being coordinated by the water trail organization. Friend's next meeting is April 3rd, 2017.

Old Business

- a. CIAA Permit: Commissioner Andy Mack issued a determination to allow the Cook Inlet Aquaculture net pens in Tutka Bay for a two-year trial. The DNR permit has been issued and is currently working with CIAA as to the placement of the pens. Alan Parks talked about the letter that was sent to Commissioner Andrew Mack.

Mako moves that a letter be written to DNR regarding the issue to invite the Commissioner Andy Mack and Commissioner Sam Cotton to come to Homer to explain how they came to their decision. Sara seconds the motion. The motion passed with Beaver stating that the decision was extremely thorough and the justification clearly explains why the decision was made.

- b. Naming the New Tutka-Taylor trail-Janet forwarded a native name "Imaqcaq" which means everyone's water. Lindsay received several names from the Seldovia Native Association and SVT which are the following: Chiemoca Passage (Good Day); Axitaxnu (Seldovia); Chief Berestoff; Tutka Backdoor; Tutka Traverse, Tutka - Taylor Bay Trail and Sea to Sea. Three different names will be submitted to State Parks for consideration with the Director making the final decision. The list will rank the names in the order of preference. The board is expected to finalize the list at the next meeting.

4. New Business

- a. April's date of meeting- It was decided to keep the same meeting date but change the venue.

5. Comments and Discussion by Visitors-none

6. Comments and Discussion by Board Members-none