



Kachemak Bay State Park Citizen Advisory Board
PO Box 3248, Homer, AK 99603
Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2019

1. Call to Order

- a. **Roll Call:** Board Members: Aron Peterson, Curtis Jackson, Glenn Green, Robert Ostrom, Jeffrey Lee, Marc Romano, Sera Baxter, Robert Archibald, Patrick Miller, Jonathan Sharp, and Kevin Walker.
On the phone: Nancy Hillstrand, Kristin Dixon and Carol Harding.
State Park staff – Jack Blackwell, Jason Okuly and Pam Russell.
Public Members – there were approximately 50 public members.
- b. **Minutes:** Jonathan Sharp change the format to add a d under committee reports. Also, under new business (a) correct the word except to accept. The minutes were approved as amended.
- c. **Agenda Changes:** Marc Romano moved the bylaws from new business to old business. The agenda was approved as amended.

- 2. Public Comment-** Over 50 people attended and 39 provided the board with comments. I kept tabs whether they were for or against lifting the regulation and 32 supported the current regulation, 6 supported allowing jet skis in the bay, and 1 person didn't care either way.

3. Visitors

4. Committee Reports

a. **State Parks-** Jack Blackwell gave a short overview of the personal watercraft use in Kachemak Bay. This Board is an advisory board for the Department of Natural Resources. This Board provides the State Park managers with public input to help with management of the State Park. Within Kachemak Bay State park some of the waters are managed by Alaska Department of Fish and Game Critical Habitat Area and other areas are managed by Alaska State Parks and Fish and Game jointly. In early 2000 Fish and Game and Alaska State Parks enacted regulations prohibiting jet skis in the Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat and State Park water. The Department of Fish and Game is considering repealing the regulation which would remove the prohibition on personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas. If the Fish and Game regulation is repealed the Alaska State Park regulation would still stand as written to prohibit jet skis in State Park waters.

b. **Operations Report-** Jason Okuly reported that staff continues to complete maintenance work at the Halibut Cove Ranger station. They are currently installing insulation on the underside of the cabin. With the recent rain events there has been severe damage to the Diamond Creek State Recreation Site. Both the road and the trail have incurred damage and there have been landslides along the bluff area.

c. Friends' Report- The Friends group had their annual membership meeting on December 9th and there was a great turnout. Dave Brann was the recipient of the Golden Pulaski award for the distinguished volunteer of the year and got a standing ovation. Roger MacCampbell was the keynote speaker.

d. Kachemak Bay 50th Anniversary Celebration-Plans for the celebration are moving ahead. The Winter Carnival Parade is February 8th and is one of the first events that the committee will be participating in.

e. Trail Committee-No Report

5. Old Business

a. Revision of Bylaws-Jonathan Sharp and Patrick Miller reported that the committee made changes to the current advisory bylaws, revising the section under nominations and appointments. Robert Archibald made the change of the Commissioner in this section to the Director. The committee would also like to make sure that we have good public notice of the vacant appointments. Curtis Jackson made a motion to accept the bylaws as written with small changes. Jonathon Sharp second the motion. The board passed it unanimously.

6. New Business:

a. MOU with Nordic Ski Club-Mike Gratz president of the Nordic Ski Club. The club has an MOU with Alaska State Parks. Robert Archibald recommended that the trail committee should work with the Nordic Ski Club on moving forward with a new MOU.

b. Personal Watercraft use in Kachemak Bay- Resolution 2019-2. The Kachemak Bay State Park Citizens Advisory board expressing its request for no action by Alaska Department of Fish and Game on Alaska rescinding regulation 5 AAC 95.310 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with the prohibition of personal watercraft use in the Fox River Flats and Kachemak Bay Critical Habitat Areas water. Nancy made the motion to accept the Resolution 2019-2. Sera Baxter second the motion.

Nancy Hilstrand made a motion to add a whereas: WHEREAS, Kachemak Bay State Park was formed and designated as a special purpose site under the Alaska Constitution article 8, section 7; Jonathan Sharp seconds the motion. Motion passed.

Nancy made an amendment to add a whereas: To lift this ban would put the safety of all users in harm's way. Aron Peterson supported the motion. Jeff Lee seconds the motion. Motion fails.

Curtis Jackson made a motion to strike the WHEREAS, ADFG staff have indicated the Governor's Office has already decided to adopt the rule change, despite the fact local residents have not had the opportunity to submit comments or voice their opinions; Marc Romano seconds the motion. The Motion Passed.

Kevin Walker made the recommendation to add Alaska State Park to Kachemak Bay Citizen Advisory Board throughout the document. Jonathan Sharp recommended taking out the (KBSPCAB) is from the first paragraph.

Nancy Hillstrand made a motion to pass the resolution as amended. Jonathan second the motion.

The board passed the motion.

Bob Ostrom wanted to state that the resolution, that the document was not a predetermined concept of the board. There was a very short time line to respond to the ADF&G request for comment.

Jeff Lee wanted to thank the Yamaha folks for coming in and discussing this ban. He also is in full support of not lifting this ban for the Critical Habitat Area.

- 7. Action Items**
- 8. Public Comment**
- 9. Comments of Board Members -**
- 10. Adjournment**