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**MINUTES**

**Girdwood Trails Committee**

**P. O. Box 1154, Girdwood, AK 99587**

**Regular Monthly Meeting -- Tuesday, April 7, 2015**

**USFS Glacier Ranger District Conference Room, 7pm**

**Call to Order**

April Agenda approved
March 3, 2015 Minutes approved

**Introduction of Guests/Presentations**

Presentation by Dowl Engineers on Egloff Road Improvements by Michelle Ritter. Dowl provided maps of the area, comment forms and fact sheets. Project is funded to bring Egloff Road to Collector Road status, which includes: 80’ width (working to make it less wide), paving, sidewalk(s), gutters, lighting, drainage. Currently in concept report phase, working on identifying problems. Draft report will be reviewed by agencies, then goes to Planning and Zoning. After that they will move to 35% design and will hold open house, site walk-thru. Attended GBOS and LUC and have received good comments.

Area is narrow, and borders creek and wetlands on East side, seeking ability to make road narrower than 80’ collector status width and to place sidewalk on one side of the road (LB’s side). Parking along road is likely to be parallel instead of perpendicular. Working with Fire Dept on coordination with new fire hall.

Trails committee comments were:

Safety crossing Alyeska Highway: refresh striping, add manual flash at crosswalk

Make trail to underpass less steep descent from road.

Add trail to underpass on map

Remove trail shown thru Girdwood park on map

Extend Karolius road to Nissman Pavilion on map

Add grading specs to plan for LB’s parking lot as this is work can be done by roads

contractor once specs are complete and will be great value to overall road drainage.
Add crosswalk to Mercantile from playground in one crossing (Instead of crossing 3 intersections)

Project was originally requested at 2.9M. Must make $2.1 do what we can and then can go back to request remaining funds that were not originally provided.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at the at the Girdwood Community Room, 7:00 pm**

Girdwood Trails Committee Agendas and minutes are available on line: http://www.muni.org/gbos

Aaron Christy will attend GBOS to discuss other projects on 4/20. He can provide more info on this one if questions arise. Plan for site visit and open house in June.

**Old Business**

**Interagency Land Management Agreements (Kyle Kidder)**

Possible to amend existing agreements with Alaska State Parks instead of working on new ILMA, which would take longer. Work with Matt Wedeking on MOU with CSP. The state really doesn’t need anything other than MOU for Trails to work on the areas, however MOA won’t allow spending on non-MOA land without formal agreement.

**Grant Application: Anchorage Park Foundation**

Received just under $20,000 from APF for Iditarod Trail work. Matching funds are required, not able to use MOA funds for matching.

Plan is to improve drainage and tread to bridge.

APF holds a party on May 8 at 12N for all grant recipients. Recipients are asked to dress up in a costume that reflects their park project. (Iditarod).

**Trail Maintenance Work 2015**

Work will be done by SCA in late June.

Work on Iditarod trail APF project can count toward matching funds with APF grant.

Need to make a comprehensive list in May:

 Iditarod trail from school to CCR (gravel, matting, re-route from gully)

 Virgin Creek – broken tree

 Bridge on Athabascan trail

 Remove airstrip panels from Beaver Pond Trail

Kyle Kidder mentions that brushing should be on woody material, not herbaceous material.

Trails Committee decides to send letter encouraging repair and realignment of the Tiny Creek Trail and request response from ASD. Trail is now blocked by new school transformer. Kate Sandberg to write letter, Carolyn to sign.

**Vote for Treasurer to serve Girdwood Trails Committee**

Girdwood Trails Committee moves to vote for Diana Livingston to serve as treasurer.

Unanimous vote in favor.

**Discussion of re-appropriation of funds left over from grooming fuel fund.**

Approximately $3,000.00 in funds could be used on other projects if re-appropriated.

Group decides to wait to see if grant funding comes through from American Hiking Society grant application. If so, may decide to contract for another week with SCA for trail work. Discussion to be taken up again once notification received from American Hiking Society.

*Trails Issues:*

* DOT/Airport Upper Valley Trail Access

No news.

* Alyeska Highway Pedestrian Safety Corridor

Diana Livingston said that when she was in Juneau recently, there was discussion to move this project to 2017. No notification of this change has been received. Must watch these appropriations and make sure they stay on target.

* Girdwood Community Trails Plan

Reviewing trail descriptions. Planning not to hold working group meeting in May.

* Hand Tram Kiosk Committee (Alison and Kate)

Soliciting ideas and approval for content of kiosk information

Discussed style/design of info board (matching roof with tram dock roofs.)

* Hand Tram

Want to open Hand Tram in April. Need to complete work identified in inspection last fall: repair mortar, clean bolts, tighten cable.

May need to purchase tools to complete work.

Kyle is hoping to get out there on FRI 4/10 if possible.

Committee moves to vote on official Hand Tram name:

Girdwood Hand Tram at Four Corners is confirmed as name in unanimous vote.

* Other Trails Issues

None

*Budget and Grants*

* Financial Report –Numbers are the same as last month

$15,086.72 (less $500 when trail signs are completed.)

RAC Grant has $7345.42 remaining

 Tram Grand Opening has $80.03

*Updates*

* Turnagain Times Article

Kate Sandberg to write article on current events: Anchorage Park Foundation Grant, SCA crew work this summer (brushing, drainage/trail improvements)

* April LUC/GBOS Meeting Representative
Carolyn to confirm with Brian that he expects to attend meetings. If not, she will attend.

**New Business**

* Consider outdoor meeting/trail work for May Meeting
Group agrees to meet at Community Center on May 5 to hike Iditarod Trail to Railroad tracks and back.

**Other Business**

 Concern of motorized vehicles accessing lower valley trails from Dump road, causing

 damage of trail tread. Suggestion is to get photos of the vehicle if possible. Discussed

 getting a motion activated camera to install in trees to catch images.