****

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Girdwood Trails Committee**

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

**Regular Monthly Meeting -- Tuesday, August 4, 2015**

**Girdwood Community Room, 7pm**

**Call to Order**

Agenda approved with addition of Girdwood Fire Dept presentation, Public Safety Task Force Update, Girdwood Inc

June 2, 2015 Minutes approved

June 18 Special meeting minutes approved

**Introduction of Guests/Presentations**

* Girdwood Fire Department presentation of trail equipment.

Capt. Gerhart provided information about rescue equipment now in service at GVFD, and had full array of equipment and description of trails rescue training that is provided at GVFD. Recently GVFD has responded to 2 calls on Girdwood Trails: Upper Winner Creek and Bird/Gird Trail.

Signage is improving, people know where they are when they call for help.

GVFD requests key or combo to locks on bollards to access trails better.

Also request 50” width of trail so that they can use equipment to get in quickly.

* Steve Cleary Adopt-A-Trail

Alaska Trails hosts conference every year, which has been attended by Alison Rein and Brian Burnett recently. Alaska Trails is a clearinghouse for trail work, providing training, tools and virtual tools to help in trail work.

Adopt-a-trail program is a part of Alaska Trails. Goal is to help land managers do routine maintenance and organize and provide skills to volunteers. In addition, AK Trails tries to emphasize training youth.

Girdwood Adopt-A-Trail training is scheduled for September 19. Class will be open to 15-20 people seeking trail maintenance training. Trainer is Mike Shields, who is well-known for his trail work in Alaska. Kenai Mountain/Turnagain Arm Heritage area is co-oping on logistics, registration, and marketing for the training.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 1, 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



Alaska Trails is working with the US Forest Service and with Girdwood Trails Committee to determine which trail to work on. Can base out of USFS office or Girdwood Community Room.

Brian Burnett says that the program matches work that GTC has been doing on Abe’s Trail, California Creek Trail.

Dave Ilse recommends that we look toward a trail that has problem areas.

Group focuses on State Park portion of Beaver Pond Trail, which has switchbacks and wet pockets, erosion. Trails will need permission from Alaska State Parks to stage equipment and do work there.

**Old Business**

* Interagency Land Management Agreements:

No report

* Trail Maintenance Work 2015

Margaret provided photos of work by SCA. Group completed first 2 sets of goals for Girdwood work.

* Discussion of re-appropriation of funds left over from grooming fuel fund to SCA work extension or other projects ($2500)

Group agrees that new haul rope for hand tram and gift card for SCA group for dinner at Chair 5 should be paid for with these funds.

Motion:

Girdwood Trails Committee moves to pay for the new haul rope @ $1482.60 and repay Kyle Kelley for gift card for SCA workers @ $150.00 from the grooming fuel fund from winter 2014/15.

Motion made by Kate Sandberg, 2nd by Brian Burnett

Motion passes unanimously.

\*NOTE: Although approved, this motion was in error as the funding sources are different than as listed in the motion. See GTC September minutes for corrected motion.

* Possible other grants:

NPS Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RCTA)

ADF&G Creek stabilization project

No report on these, but we should keep in mind for next year.

*Trails Issues:*

* DOT/Airport Upper Valley Trail Access

Equipment is still on the hill where test sites were drilled.

Deb Crogan is wondering when will move and what is next.

Group requests info from Kyle if he has an update on status of new hangar construction.

* Alyeska Highway Pedestrian Safety Corridor

Construction still on for Summer 2016.

Group requests update from Sean Holland with DOT on plans. Any changes since presentations earlier this summer?

* Girdwood Community Trails Plan

No meeting in July or August. Back to work in September.

* Hand Tram Kiosk Committee (Alison and Kate)

No new information

* Girdwood Hand Tram at Four Corners

No new information

* Other Trails Issues

David Ilse reports that although Upper Winner Creek trail was to be brushed this year, that was only partly completed before resources were diverted for fighting forest fires. He also reports that USFS is working on the layout of the future trail to be built from Berry Pass to 20 mile bridge.

Lower Valley Iditarod Trail. Alison Rein is working on flagging the route, which will be a mix of the current and new alignment. David Ilse is in touch with the AK Railroad to see about route to trailhead. Christina Hendrickson is new at AKRR and is contact for this. AKRR plans to re-do depot and parking area in future, and this is a good conversation to be having now.

*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

* Anchorage Park Foundation Grant update

No update.

* Reimbursement for Kyle Kelley for SCA Dinner @ $150.00 was approved (see motion above)
* Reimbursement for Kyle Kelley for Hand Tram Haul Rope @ $1482.60 was approved (see motion above)

*Updates*

* Turnagain Times Article

Leah with Kenai Mountain Turnagain Arm Heritage Area is preparing article on Adopt-A-Trail. Kate to co-op with her for this article. Following month’s article can be about trail improvements this summer with SCA.

* August LUC/GBOS Meeting Representative

Brian Burnett attending

**New Business**

None

**Other Business**

* Public Safety Task Force Update

Brian Burnett presented Task Force information sheet and discussed Public Safety

It is discussed that the USFS has one law enforcement position that is based in Girdwood

* Girdwood Inc invitation

Girdwood Inc Open House to highlight projects supported by Girdwood Inc is September 19 from 7-9PM. Trails committee is invited to attend and present projects.

* Grandview to Bartlett Glacier Trail

Working on layout for future trail to connect Grandview whistle stop to Bartlett Glacier

USFS is working with Chugachmuit on project.

* Girdwood K-8 open house 8/18 from 5-7PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.