**MINUTES**

**Girdwood Trails Plan Working Group**

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

**Regular Monthly Meeting -- Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

**Girdwood Community Room 6pm**

**Call to Order**
Attending are Brian Burnett, Carolyn Brodin; Kate Sandberg leading the meeting by teleconference.

**Old Business**

**Review changes to the Girdwood Trails Plan document.**

Questions from Nicole Jones-Vogel with HLB:

* My biggest confusion is the “manager” and “easement status” of each identified trail.  For instance, for some trails the manager is in fact the land owner, and on other trails it is the entity responsible for trail maintenance.  It might be best to change “manager” to “land owner” and then have another item to identify trail maintenance responsibility

Change to Land Owner throughout document and explain who has management authority.

* California Creek trail is on HLB land, and the easement is dedicated (by plat I think).

Kate to check on this with Nicole and match info from HLB.

* INHT – which portions do not have easements?  That might be useful to identify.  Also there are large Public Use Easements on Glacier Creek.  Where is the INHT alignment going to be going through Girdwood South Townsite?

Easement exists from RxR through industrial park.
After that, a plat note designates 200’ setback for INHT. This runs along the road alignment of Karolius to Egloff bike path. Trail continues across crosswalk using existing bike path/sidewalks to school.
Upper valley there is an area that the USFS has easement for.

* The bike paths are not managed by HLB.  I believe at minimum they are easements with responsibility given to PM&E – definitely for Egloff and Arlberg Extension.

Bike path owner should state: MOA Street Maintenance/Girdwood Service Area.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at the Girdwood Community Room, 6:00 pm**

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



* It would be useful to also identify trails in this plan that are outside of the Girdwood Valley Service Area.

This is outside of the scope of this group currently.

* Moose Meadows’ trails shouldn’t need an easement – isn’t it a dedicated park?  While it is in HLB inventory, management authority has been given to P&R
	+ Should the team decide to change to “land ownership” I’d recommend using MOA – P&R or MOA – AWWU, or MOA – HLB depending on the site.  All MOA-owned property is MOA-owned, with management authority given to different departments.
	+ I’m not aware of an HLB permit for commercial dog sled tours in Moose Meadows – if there is a permit is should be coming from P&R, possibly with HLB concurrence.

Change owner to: MOA Girdwood Parks and Rec.

* Nordic 5K Loop – the easement is a 20-year easement and the manager is the Girdwood Nordic Club, although it is on HLB land.  I do think it would be wise to show support of the Nordic Ski expansion and the Mountain Bike Alliance proposed trails – if the Trails Committee does in fact support them.  So adding language or proposed trail segments would be helpful – from HLB’s review perspective.

Add note about 20 year easement status and get expiration date of that easement.

Remove box in document

* Ragged Top Trail – isn’t this trail on HLB property? Or at least part of it?  Maybe HLB + SOA/CSP?

HLB/USFS

* Snow Cat Trail – is on a revocable land use permit – I didn’t realize that the cabin was public use – it is also on HLB land through a lease to CPG.

Add CPG as land manager with revocable permit with HLB/DNR

* Stumpy’s Winter Trail – if completely in Moose Meadows, probably does not need an easement

Trail continues on out of Moose Meadows and needs easement for upper valley portion.

* Virgin Creek falls trailhead: I didn’t find any information regarding the Land Conservation Trust – was it does as a Recreation Easement?

Carolyn to work on finding info out about the Conservation Trust, which is not showing up in MOA records.

* Winner Creek – also on HLB land with easement to USFS for trail and IGP with Girdwood P&R for Hand Tram operation/maintenance – under special considerations where is says, “however MOA does…” change to “MOA-HLB does”

HLB is the land owner.

Trail managers are USFS (trail) and Girdwood Parks and Rec (hand tram)

Brian requests change in language in description from “just past” to “adjacent”.

* I’m assuming upcoming iterations will have maps to reference trail locations?

Yes.

* Appendix 3 – I’m not sure the word “dedicated” is the best describing word for this.  Dedicated general means given to the government – like roadways, etc.  But some of these areas don’t need easements (dedicated park, Alyeska Resort, etc).  I’m guessing you mean protected trails?  Or maybe something else?

This appendix has been removed.

Other items to be reviewed, which have been worked on by Kate Sandberg since last meeting:

* Introduction

Group approves of Kate’s addition to the Introduction.

* Landowners

Group approves of change to Landowners and changes in text

* Trail Managers

Group approves of new language and need to clarify the landowners vs trail managers

* Resort Trails Complex change to Resort Trails and Upper Valley Trails

Group agrees to change, Brian to provide map with boundaries of Resort property to be added to the new map. Group made small changes to text copy of both categories.

Brian notes that the Winner Creek Extension trail is on public land that buffers Alyeska property and land that is owned by resort but could be privately owned and developed in the future.

* Girdwood Valley Trail Design and Development Guidelines

Group agrees that item #3 should be added and in the future a document can be drafted to explain the process of adding new trails.

* Trail easements

Group agrees with added text.

* Wish list

Cat road addition recommended by Nick Georgelos:

Change language as GTC is interested in trail manager doing the work on get this trail improved for summer and winter use.

Beaver Pond Trail recommended addition by Nick is already stated in the trail description and that work is in process. No need to add to wish list.

Other:

Change Travel Management to Trail Management throughout the trail descriptions in the plan

Stumpy’s Summer Trail needs a trail description and to be added to all trail lists in document. Carolyn to write description.

Winner Creek Extension Trail needs a trail description and to be added to all trail lists in the document. Brian to write description.

GTC to request paragraph on mountain biking from GMBA to include in document.

Ebikes information should reflect that Girdwood trails are within MOA and are subject to MOA code, which states that ebikes of specific types are allowed on trails.

Document to be presented back to GTC in August; LUC and GBOS following that.

Comment period remains open through August, GTC will continue to collect public comments.

**New Business**

None

Meeting adjourned 6:55PM