**Minutes Draft**

**Girdwood Trails Management Plan Public Review**

**September 5, 2017 – Revised 9.11.17**

**Girdwood Community Room 6:00pm**

**6:00PM Call to Order**, Kate Sandberg
Review Girdwood Trails Management Plan
Kate introduced the Girdwood Trails Management Plan as a work in progress for over 4 years. Bulk of the time that Trails has spent on this has been on Appendix 2, which describes each trail as it currently is and explains the management goal for each trail. This is similar to the method used by Alaska State Parks and the US Forest Service.

**Changes to the draft document through the public review process include:
*Easements***
Assistance from HLB regarding land ownership, proper language to describe legal status of trails. This has caused a change in language from “dedicated trails” to “trails with easements”. Kate recommends that GTC approve language recommended by HLB as it matches federal, state and municipal language.

***Stumpy’s Summer Trail:***Carolyn Brodin wrote a trail description to be added to the plan. It will be addressed at the Trails Meeting.

***Winner Creek Extension Trail:***Trail description is still pending. Brian Burnett was to write this. Group agrees that the plan can be adopted noting that this trail description will be added.

***Various small edits regarding punctuation, spelling, etc have been noted.***

**New Public Comment and recommendations for the plan content:
*Signage:***Recommendation that signage be added to each trail description, below the trail start and trail end. This will act as an inventory of signs needed. Deb Croghan to coordinate with Dwaine Schuldt on this.

Trial signage can be different for different types of trails: highly used trails are more signed than less used trails. Will Brennan to provide language from the USFS that GTC can consider adopting in to the Girdwood Trails Management plan.

***Trail History:***Recommendation that significance of trails should be described in the trail plan. Reason for names, for example the Danich Trail, Stumpy’s Trails, Abe’s, Wagon Trail. Explanation of the name and/or purpose of original trail, etc will add context to readers and trail users.
This item can be addressed in future versions of the Girdwood Trails Management plan.

Group discussed commemorative naming of trails in the future, but this is handled by the Parks and Recreation department through the MOA. Most typically benches in parks are named for individuals, through an existing system as part of a donation or contribution through the request of the individual or their family.
No action on this item for the Girdwood Trail Management Plan.

***Mapping***Following descriptions on page 17-18 of 5 management areas: Alyeska Highway Corridor, Resort Owned Trails, Upper Valley Trails, Alyeska Basin and South Valley Trails, and Back Country, there is a map on page 19. This map over-draws the extent of Resort Owned Trails and should be re-drawn. This map is an overlay of a topo map, and seems more official than the map really is. It is suggested that less formal representation of the areas without the topo lines would help in communicating that these are conceptual trail zones.
This is a high priority item. Group states that redrawing this map to show the resort boundary accurately is needed prior to presenting this plan draft to GBOS.

***Climate Change***
Recommendation that a segment on changing trail management based on climate change should be included in a future version of the plan.

Kate will communicate these changes to the document to the graphic designer. Updated document to be presented at LUC and GBOS. LUC to vote to recommend GBOS Resolution of Support. Draft Resolution of Support will be presented at GTC for review and editing.

Margaret to ask Brian Burnett to handle presentation to LUC on September 11. Kate will be back to present to GBOS on September 18.

Adjourn 7pm