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**Minutes Final**

**Girdwood Trails Committee**

**Regular Monthly Meeting -- Tuesday, September 3, 2019**

**Girdwood Community Room 7PM**

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors, its committees, and subcommittees are subject to the Alaska Open Meetings Act as found in Alaska Statute 44.62.310 and Anchorage Municipal Code1.25 - Public Meetings.

**Call to Order** 7:02PM Carolyn Brodin

September 3, 2019 agenda approved CH/KS  
August 6, 2019 Minutes approved KS/CB

**Announcements:**

HLBAC meeting to be held in Girdwood on September 10 at 12PM in the Girdwood Community Room.  
  
Alaska Trails Trail Tales on Sept 17 from 7-9PM at 49th State Brewing Co will feature stories from the Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area (KMTA).

**Introduction of Guests/Presentations**

**Old Business:**

*Trails Issues:*

* Hand Tram remains closed and architect/engineer review of the structure to improve safety.

Tram was functioning normally, working on operation issues to improve safety.   
Drawings presented of ideas to improve operation: rail system to keep people on the upper platform, paint to mark the “no go zone” on the lower deck, rail between the lower platform and the net, “bump gate” that opens and closes when tram cart passes through, larger netting/different net design. Construction designs are intended for on-site installation and ease of removal for maintenance.

Ongoing conversation regarding tram safety features, hiring operators to oversee tram operations, as well as investigating other options, such as a bridge. Additional concerns include the responsibility of response to the Hand Tram.

This discussion will continue over the winter as more is understood of the various options. This project is Girdwood taxpayer funded, MOA seeks input from the community on what they would like to see happen with the hand tram.

* Update on Girdwood Trails Master Plan (Christina Hendrickson)

Christina has been working on grant funding, but none have come through yet. HLB also has no funding, but may be a source later on.

USFS has offered in-kind GIS support to identify land use areas

Goal is to fund consultant who is familiar with Girdwood and the Girdwood Area Plan effort to be awarded contract for the trail plan. Current step is to identify stakeholders and create subcommittee to work on the Trail Plan with the consultant. It is possible that the consultant will be on board by October to meet GTC at their next meeting.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 1, 2019**

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

* Girdwood Trails Management Plan Update (Barb Crews)  
  Group met prior to this meeting. Flow chart and text has been sent to HLB for review, but no response yet. HLB has more of a real estate focus than trails/recreation focus, Girdwood’s projects are the only ones of their type managed by HLB. HLB plans to meet with GTC prior to the HLBAC meeting on September 10. This item should be discussed at that meeting.
* Schedule following events:

End of season trail project: Potential projects are Beaver Pond Trail drainage/gravel or Iditarod National Historic Trail between the school and Crow Creek Road, to complete work by SCA crew. Likely 2 hour project in the evening on a TUE/WED in September. Kyle/Margaret will email to pitch dates.  
  
Volunteer appreciation: Likely at the October 1 GTC Regular meeting

Virgin Creek Trail walk-through and neighborhood discussion. HLB will do walk through on Sept 10 after 12PM meeting is concluded. Kyle recommends holding walk through with Timberline Rd. neighbors the week of Sept 16 or after. Staff will follow up.

* Other Trails Issues  
  Alyeska Highway Pedestrian Safety Corridor Sweeps: Agreement pending with DOT to allow GVSA to pay for and place mitigation such as striping, moveable bollards and signage on the sweeps. GBOS will discuss budget and is working on formal agreement.

Pedestrian Flashing Crosswalk Light: flasher should be installed after Sept 15. Street lights that are part of the project are on back-order with large delay, likely not available until November.  
  
Airport Access update: DOT has posted new signs around airport property to deter trespassing on airport land. Meeting with DOT Director Wolfgang Junger to discuss trail access north of the airport pending.

* Financial Report -- Designated treasurer: Carolyn Brodin

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| Girdwood Trails Committee Financial Report | | |
| August 30, 2019 |  |  |
| Account with Girdwood Inc. |  | $3,116.62 |
| Expenses Paid |  | $0 |
| Deposits to Account |  | $29,277.00 |
| Account with Girdwood Inc. |  | $32,393.62 |
| Deposits/Grants Pending |  | $0.00 |
| Reserve for Trail Signs |  | (500.00) |
| Reserve for Forest Fair Fund |  | (80.03) |
| Reserve for Further Trails Publication Costs |  | (7,000.00) |
| Reserve for Volunteer Prizes |  | ($500.00) |
| Balance Unreserved Funds |  | $24,313.59 |

* Grants & Projects Status report:
* KMTA trail sign grant: Grant application submitted, awards discussed at meeting Sept 13.
* KMTA Parks and Rec grant for trail building tools ($4290 matching): pending reimbursement request.
* RTP Grant status ($75,000): all but $29,000 expended. Would like to use these funds on the next phase, to bring improved trail farther to the end of Karolius. Initiating discussion with State.
* APF grant for Lower INHT ($5,000): Awarded, need to complete contract. These funds are also for next phase of INHT to end of Karolius.
* ACF grant for power wheelbarrow ($800). Need to send in invoice, but we haven’t received it yet from supplier.

*Updates*

* GNSC: No update. Deb Essex seeks help with names of meadows for mapping/EMS response.
* GMBA: Finished uptrack. Rain and foot traffic will help firm up the tread. Trail is technically closed.
* GBOS (Christina Hendrickson): Budget meetings concluded, most are flat. Parks and Rec budget increased by $10,000, which is dedicated to the Non-Profit Rec grants ($5K for Four Valleys and $5K to be divided among other grantees. Girdwood Area Plan has received $20,000 for next phase through Assembly funding. Whittier Police Contract is in discussion with attorneys with Whittier and Anchorage. Ongoing discussion regarding unregulated short term rentals’ impact on neighbors, particularly on Echo Ridge Rd. Little Bears is working toward bond package to present at the April municipal election. Paid for by Girdwood residents, requires full Anchorage vote to back the bond. 20 year bond will cost $25 for each $100,000 of home value. Proposed building is approximately 4,000 SF, estimated at $2.2M new building, demo of old structures, parking and drainage improvements in the same location as current Little Bears and garage.
* September LUC/GBOS Meeting Representative: Carolyn and Kate will discuss and attend.

**New Business:**

**Other Business:**

**Adjourn 8:30PM**