



CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 13, 2009

5:30pm-7:30pm

NOTES

5:30pm – 5:45pm Introduction/Welcome Back

- *Summary of summer progress on Section 36*
 - *Summary of trail analysis and routing with Troy Duffin*
- Susan Luescher (DOWL HKM) gave an update about the site visit with Troy Duffin on September 29 and 30.*

During Troy's visit, approximately 4.5 miles of trails were flagged on the north side of Clark's Road. These trails were envisioned as being two to three feet wide constructed with little or no imported material, and connected to both sides of the ridge as a loop. These trails would potentially have three access points. The first being at the north end of Heights Hill Road where it intersects at Clark's Road, the second being on the eastern side of Section 36 along Clark's Road near a trailhead location designated by the Hillside District Plan, and the third being near the northeast corner of Section 36 along Rabbit Creek Road.

Susan stated that Troy's final recommendation was to have multi-use trails on the slopes of the higher elevations and along the ridge as well as a wide separated multi-use trail loop constructed at the lower elevations along Clark's Road.

The afternoon of September 29 was spent discussing the Section 36 project, the possible trails that could be built, and answering any questions the public had regarding these topics.

5:45pm – 6:30pm Concepts

- *Summary of comments received to date*
 - *CAC summary of input/comments from public outreach*
- Jerry Lewanski stated he had received a variety of suggestions for Section 36 during the summer break. Many included comments about how Storck Park is a community park and Section 36 is a natural resource park and that they should be combined.*

Other comments from the public to CAC members included funding. Many felt that the plan should not be limited due to the current economy. Another comment from the public to CAC members was to have phased plans and projects so funding is easier to secure. The group agreed that this would be desirable because it would provide helpful information for contractors and developers on future improvements.

Natural resource parks can serve as community use parks by drawing user groups in; however; steep slopes and wetlands should receive an added level of protection.

- **Review maps**

An important discussion topic by the CAC members was what level of trail development is appropriate for Section 36.

Susan gave an overview of the revised concepts with the proposed trails. The dark green trail, shown in Concept #3 is proposed as a Nordic Class 3 trail with a width between 10 and 12 feet. The black trail, shown in Concepts #2 and #3 is proposed as an Equestrian Class 2 trail with a width between 2 to 4 feet at a 7% grade. Holly Spoth-Torres (MOA) stated she is confident that the proposed black trail would be consistent with a natural resource park. These trails would be designed as multi-use trails. An option also discussed by the CAC would be to develop a ski loop from Storck Park and following Clarks Road.

The wildlife corridor in Section 36 includes the wetlands. Julian Mason stated that having an extensive boardwalk, as previously discussed in earlier meetings, would be troubling due to wildlife concerns and that an outlook over the wetlands would be less disruptive.

It was also discussed that the development of Storck Park should be consistent with the requirement of the adjacent wetlands. Another idea was to combine Storck Park and the Great Land Trust parcel with Section 36.

The CAC discussed trail lighting and if it should be prohibited, or allowed with restrictions. Many of the neighboring residents prefer non-lit ski trails, though other users would favor lit ski trails.

Adjacent land use was also discussed, including future residential subdivisions and possible connections to Chugach State Park. Existing road ROWs could also be part of a trail link to Chugach State Park.

6:30pm – 6:40pm **Break**

6:40pm – 7:15pm **Concepts (ctd.)**

7:15pm – 7:30pm **Next Steps**

- *Upcoming public meeting on November 10, 2009*
All CAC members are encouraged to attend the public meeting to speak with attendees about Section 36 and how they were involved.
- *CAC meeting schedule*
One more CAC meeting will be held in January after the draft plan has been completed.