



Municipality of Anchorage

Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission

Room 830 - Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall
632 West 6th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska

ACTION SUMMARY

12:00 Noon
Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Regular Meeting

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Present: Dan Billman

Dan Bosch

Tamás Deák

Brett Jokela

Holly Kent

David Nyman

Captain Bob Pawlowski

Rick Sinnott

Staff: Thede Tobish, Senior Planner, MOA-Planning Department

Brad Dunker, MOA-Project Management & Engineering Department,
Watershed Management Services Division (WMS)

Guests: David Mitchell, The Great Land Trust

Sarah Glatzer, UAA Student

II. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:03 p.m.

III. ACTION SUMMARY

A. Regular Meeting of March 24, 2010

Commissioner Bosch moved to approve the March 24, 2010 minutes. *Commissioner Pawlowski* seconded.

The March 23, 2010 minutes were passed unanimously as written.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Campbell Creek Estuary Acquisition – Great Land Trust

David Mitchell, staff from The Great Land Trust (GLT), provided an overview and details of their proposal to acquire and preserve an approximate 60-acre parcel of land at the north side of the mouth of Campbell Creek. This land deal has spanned two years and includes several grants and interconnected funding sources. GLT has nearly obtained all the funds necessary to acquire the land from the original family.

Part of the agreement with this acquisition is that the MOA has agreed to receive the land, once a conservation easement is placed to seal its permanent preservation. The MOA would place the land in park status, and GLT will include a stewardship account to manage the conservation easement. Total purchase price is \$6.5 million, with a November 30, 2010 closing date.

The site is to be accessible to the public. The MOA Parks and Recreation Commission has adopted a resolution of support for this acquisition and land transfer to the MOA. GLT is requesting a similar resolution of support from the Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission. Mr. Mitchell submitted a draft resolution for the Commission to consider.

Commissioner Billman made a motion to approve a resolution of support of the acquisition and preservation and the subsequent transfer of title to the MOA Parks and Recreation Department.

Commissioner Sinnott seconded.

Commissioner Billman asked if the land was to be subdivided to retain land around the original landowner's home and where the new park access would be. Mr. Mitchell responded affirmatively and the house lot was actually already subdivided. The GLT is working with the landowners to further subdivide the land for the two families to better split profits from the sale and to account for an access conveyance. The new road access will be off Selkirk Drive and pedestrian access will come from Lennox. *Commissioner Pawlowski* asked if the Port of Anchorage contribution is MOA or federal money. Mr. Mitchell responded that the funds from that source come from mitigation requirements from the Port's Corps of Engineers permit for the Port expansion.

The Motion to support the acquisition and preservation of this parcel with subsequent transfer to the MOA's Parks and Recreation Department was approved unanimously.

B. CIAP Project Update – Brad Dunker, MOA–Project Management & Engineering

Brad Dunker, creeks coordinator staff in the MOA Project Management & Engineering Department, provided an update on projects and funding. The MOA receives funds for the four-year program from federal oil royalties in the Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP). The MOA identified a set of projects that fit within the State's "program," and these will be funded as pass-thru. The MOA project list includes the following:

- DNS Concrete parcel creek restoration;
- Campbell Creek estuary parcel acquisition, contribution;
- South Fork Little Campbell Creek fish passage project at the Alaska Zoo; and
- Chester Creek channel restoration at Muldoon crossing.

Commissioner Kent wanted to clarify that the location of a future section of DeBarr Road is likely part of the decision to move the creek at this site now—to make room for a road project in the future. *Mr. Dunker* said that wasn't the intention of this action.

C. Rover's Run Trail Closure

Rick Sinnott, as ADFG staff, described the issues surrounding the annual closure of Rover's Run. After initially agreeing to close the trail per conditions from the past few summers, the Municipality decided to not close the trail. Last year the MOA closed the trail on May 25. ADFG is very concerned about the potential for human-bear conflicts and maulings. Instead of closure, MOA has decided to put up yellow caution signs. *Mr. Sinnott* agreed to obtain more information about the MOA's intent and plans for this trail, and he will come back to the Commission with follow-up.

Commissioner Billman asked if there was a municipal standard procedure for trail or park hazards and closures. No one had an answer. *Mr. Sinnott* said that the Anchorage Bear Committee came up with trail closure protocols, which are not being followed now for this trail. He will provide an update at a meeting in the near future.

V. OLD BUSINESS (none)

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS (none)

VII. OTHER BUSINESS (none)

VIII. STAFF REPORT (none)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jokela moved to adjourn. *Commissioner Billman* seconded.

The motion passed without objection.

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.