



Municipality of Anchorage

Watershed & Natural Resources Advisory Commission

Room 155 - City Hall
632 West 6th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska

ACTION SUMMARY

12:00 Noon
Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Regular Meeting

I. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Present: Dan Bosch
Tamás Deák, Chair
Brett Jokela
Holly Kent
David Nyman
Rick Sinnott, Vice Chair

Excused: Dan Billman
Stephanie Quinn-Davidson

One Vacancy

Staff: Thede Tobish, Senior Planner, Planning Department,
Long-Range Planning Division

Guest: Josh Durand, MOA Parks and Recreation Department

II. CALL TO ORDER

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

III. ACTION SUMMARY

A. Regular Meeting of April 26, 2017

Commissioner Sinnott moved to approve the April 26, 2017 minutes as written. *Commissioner Kent* seconded.

The minutes for the April 26, 2017 Regular Meeting were approved as written.

IV. NEW BUSINESS (none)

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. WNRC Case No. 2017-01: Proposed New Singletrack Trails in Far North Bicentennial Park

Staff updated the Commission on the project status and on a meeting with Planning Department staff and Alaska Department of Fish and Game. Planning and Fish and Game staff discussed options and concerns about the proposed trail alignments and wildlife conflict risks. Staff asked Fish and Game to consider offering options or alternatives to the proposal that would reduce the risk factors for bear encounters. Fish and Game offered to consider these and respond in a timely manner. The Singletrack Advocates offered to collaborate with Parks and Rec and Fish and Game.

Commissioner Sinnott said there was confusion about how this proposal relates to the recommendations of the Far North Bicentennial Park trails plan and maps. This proposal appears to be in conflict with the Plan. *Josh Durand, Parks and Recreation Department Superintendent*, noted that the area for these trails is shown for high density (30-40 miles of trail per square mile) in the Plan's trail map. The project may require approval from the Urban Design Commission if there is substantial clearing of more than an acre of land.

Commissioner Sinnott recommended eliminating the orange and blue trails in the proposal. The review was tabled till the June meeting.

B. WNRC Case No. 2017-02: Trap, Neuter, Return Proposal for Cats

Commissioner Sinnott said that a local group wishes to initiate a Trap, Neuter, and Release program for Anchorage for feral cats. Current municipal and state regulations and policies do not allow release of cats or feeding or caring for feral cats. This proposed program would require a change of state laws and municipal code. *Commissioner Sinnott* offered estimates of feral cat predation summaries on birds and small mammals as significant and a reason for the Commission to consider making recommendations to the Alaska Board of Game to not support amending state laws about releasing cats. This topic will be continued at a later meeting in summer.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS/STAFF REPORT (none)

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Nyman moved to adjourn. *Commissioner Bosch* seconded.

The motion passed without objection.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.