

Municipality of Anchorage



P.O Box 390
Girdwood, Alaska 99587
<http://www.muni.org/gbos>

David Bronson, Mayor

GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Mike Edgington & Briana Sullivan, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Amanda Sassi, Guy Wade

May 16, 2022 **GBOS Regular Meeting** **Minutes Final**

7:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams & Girdwood Community Room

This hybrid meeting is taking place via Microsoft Teams & at the Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Rd:

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 Code 1.25 - Public Meetings.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.

Call to Order 7:00 p.m. Mike Edgington, Co-Chair

Roll Call: Mike Edgington (ME), Briana Sullivan (BS), Jennifer Wingard (JW), Amanda Sassi (AS), Guy Wade (GW)

Disclosures:

Jennifer Wingard discloses that she is one of the plaintiffs in a lawsuit regarding State Senate redistricting (Item 12). While it would be inappropriate for Jennifer to vote on this topic, this is not an action item for GBOS at this time. Jennifer is asked to participate in the discussion to provide information on the topic.

Mike Edgington discloses that his spouse is on the Girdwood Clinic Board (Item 8). This has been disclosed at other meetings with items related to the clinic. No substantive conflict is found.

Agenda Revisions and Approval

May 16, 2022 Meeting agenda approved	BS/AS	Assent vote
April 5, 2022 Special Meeting minutes approved	GW/BS	Assent vote
April 25, 2022 Regular meeting minutes approved	BS/GW	Assent vote
May 4 2022 GBOS Special meeting minutes approved	BS/AS	Assent vote

Announcements:

- Proposed schedule effective June 1 2022 Girdwood Transfer Station (dump):
MON, FRI, SAT 9:30A-5P
Closed TUE, WED, THU, SUN
- MOA GBOS Quarterly meeting rescheduled for May 23 at 4PM as a hybrid meeting via teams and in the Girdwood Community Room.
- Register for a dump pass for free dump day
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-free-summer-disposal-pass-tickets-275127913997>

Introductions, Presentations and Reports:

- Update on GBOS co-chairs and roles for 2022. Roles are established after spring election each year. GBOS met just prior to this meeting and have selected Briana Sullivan and Mike Edgington to serve as co-chairs.
GBOS roles are: Amanda Sassi – Public Safety; Jennifer Wingard – Roads and Utilities; Guy Wade – Fire; Mike Edgington – Land Use; Briana Sullivan – Parks and Rec/Cemetery

GBOS Meeting Agendas and minutes are available on line: <http://www.muni.org/gbos>

2. Update of housing developments in Girdwood, including Holtan Hills
Recent letters received from the community are included in the meeting packet and were shared at Land Use last week.
Land Use Committee suggested that this should be a topic for an LUC/GBOS Joint meeting.
GBOS agrees and requests that staff find a meeting date for LUC/GBOS Joint meeting/Town Hall in June prior to June 20 GBOS Regular meeting. This meeting will be set up outside of usual GBOS meeting times/dates in order to get as much public engagement as possible.

Kyle Kelley confirms that the Development Agreement between the developer and HLB has been signed. He will find out if this is a public document. Adam Trombley is the acting director at HLB; questions regarding most HLB items are to be directed to him. Emma Giboney is HLB staff, hired as a land manager recently.

3. Update on the Girdwood Trails Plan (GTC Executive Committee member)
Trails Plan was presented to public and comments were compiled with action items presented to the GTC for review and approval. This process ended in Dec 2021, and a redline document was presented to GTC for Approval. GTC members voted the redline version down, citing that they had not yet had the opportunity to make their recommendations. Changes were presented to GTC Jan 18, 45 revisions were presented. Starting in March, GTC began discussion and vote on these revisions. It has been slow going with a lot of discussion. Group will begin discussion of amendment #7 at their next meeting, and this topic is likely to take some time as it comes down to the possible removal of Primitive Trail Areas from the plan. Assistance by a parliamentarian has been helpful. Parliamentarian wasn't available for May Regular meeting, so the plan was not discussed. Special meeting is scheduled for May 24 at 7PM. GTC June regular meeting will be a work party on the Lower INHT; July meeting is cancelled. GTC could opt for summer Special meetings to continue to discuss the Trails Plan, however it is possible the group will not discuss again until August GTC Regular meeting. Carolyn Brodin states that she anticipates it will take 3-4 months once summer break is over to complete the revisions.

Some GBOS members express concern about the amount of time needed to complete the plan. They ask if there is assistance that they can provide.

Jonathan Lee asks for GBOS to consider adopting the original redline plan, which was rejected by GTC in January. Debra Croghan and Shannon O'Brien speak in favor of this action.

This is not an action item on this agenda and remains with the GTC currently. GBOS requests that the Girdwood Trails Plan is added to the GBOS agenda in June as New Business.

4. Legislative Report – Sen. Roger Holland, Rep. James Kaufman. Neither are available as legislature is in session.
Assembly members – R. Sulte, S. LaFrance
Randy Sulte updates that there will be a special election to select a 12th Assembly member soon, representing downtown. Assembly overrode Mayors budget vetoes, mill rate will be set shortly based on the passed budget. ARPA funds will be distributed as they were in the last round, Assembly web-page has instructions and application. GBOS asks about the \$10M set aside for municipal projects and how those funds may be accessed, as that would be the pool of funding for replacement of Ruane Bridge. Sulte does not know if there is a different method to apply for these funds, he suggests completing the on-line application and sending it to himself and Suzanne LaFrance to carry forward. Staff will follow up. Deadline is May 20.
Mayor's Office: Brice Wilbanks is unable to attend this evening.
Anchorage School Board Liaison: Kelly Lessons is Girdwood ASB liaison thru June.
Graduation season has been very joyful – 2400 seniors have graduated from the district.
Classes end May 19, summer school sessions will begin shortly, Aug 18 is the first day of 22/23 school year.
Anchorage School Board will be doing outreach to community regarding the District's fiscal situation.
New Superintendent has accepted the position and has been accepted by the Anchorage School Board. State of Alaska is responsible for qualifying teachers and administrators, no issues are anticipated with his qualifications. He is expected to begin work in July.
Kelly encourages public to visit school grounds during summer months. If you notice issues at school grounds during summer:
APD Emergency: 911; APD Non-emergency: 311 extension 1
ASD Maintenance: 348-5111; ASD Security: SEM@asdk12.org

There's also an ASD "Camper Host" Program, which I might not have mentioned. Applications are here: <https://www.asdk12.org/Page/8017>

5. Supervisor Reports
Briana Sullivan thanks staff and community for helping to resolve the vandalism at the Nissman Pavilion. Mike Edgington updates that GBOS voted to support HB411 regarding Service Area Tax Exemption status. This item has passed the State House and Senate.

6. Service Provider Reports (5 mins)
Fire – Chief Weston. Kyle Kelley updates on behalf of Chief Weston, who is out of state. Girdwood Fire Dept Firefighter 1 class paired with AFD for training recently in Anchorage. GFR needs more members, please consider volunteering. GFR hosted Safetyalooza last week with a variety of training available to the community.

Police – Chief Achee – Several reports to WPD regarding individual with a knife who seemed to be threatening a woman walking her dog. Contact was made with the individual. Chief Achee asks for public to report crimes to the police, not report them on Facebook. Traffic enforcement since Jan 1 has included 14 targeted traffic areas in Girdwood (requested by public for additional enforcement). 244 stops have been made and 34 citations issued. Call Whittier non-emergency line to discuss having a specific road or location included in targeted enforcement. Whittier will be attending Behavioral Health Training accessed via MOA alcohol tax funds; training must occur within the MOA, so they are working on a date and time to achieve this with AFD trainers.

Roads/Parks & Rec – Kyle Kelley – Bob Mucha has started as our summer park caretaker. Trails are soft and need to dry out and harden up before being hiked or ridden on bikes. Please wait to access trails until they are ready.

Weight restrictions have just been lifted for roads, road crew will start summer grading, watering and calcium chloride application. Summer projects include completing Oct storm repairs. State reimbursement of GVSA expenses from the storm are pending.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Krystal Hoke: New Transfer station days of operation should be discussed. Perhaps there are options other than closure of the station for an additional day each week. She suggests installation of cameras and/or a dump system similar to that of Cooper Landing, where the dump is accessed for free and locked at night.

Staff understands the reason for SUN closure is staffing and is unlikely to change unless more staff can be hired. Other suggestions for handling dump service will be discussed with Municipal Manager at the MOA GBOS meeting next MON at 4PM. Item will be added to that agenda.

OLD BUSINESS:

7. Permitting for Girdwood Forest Fair 2022 (Karen Zaccaro)
Draft site plan and map were presented in April. As discussed then, food booths are moving toward ball field, more rented toilets and handwash stations are being ordered than in prior years. Forest Fair is working also on parking and vehicle impact on the community, and is scheduling Girdwood/Anchorage bus commuter service for the fair daily.

Several years ago GBOS issued a blanket resolution of fee waiver for the Girdwood Forest Fair. GBOS may revisit this and request a renewal cycle for this. Draft Letter of Non-Objection is included in the meeting packet.

Motion:

GBOS moves to provide a Letter of Non-Objection to the Girdwood Forest Fair site plan and fee waiver as presented.

Motion by BS/2nd AS

Motion carries 5-0 via roll call vote

8. **Agenda Item LUC 2204-05:** Request for GBOS Resolution of Support for Girdwood Health Clinic Phase 2 Modification. Assembly action to T21 allows slightly larger health services building in the gC-7 district. Urban Design Commission hearing is scheduled for June 8, 2022. Public meeting held on this item March 28. Recording is available here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/2WFO6pAjoRxdxLWhzQC1PFJjDE04Vdell6qxmWPpvD5LmiuOKjJEacitynwV4gvp.KR-LtbSrXLKOxZs6>

This item was discussed at Land Use Committee May 9 with support for recommendation of GBOS resolution by a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 4 abstaining. Taryn Yelle presents that the change to the site plan is to add 930SF of clinic space in the location of the patio. A design variance is also requested to address outside wall plane offset. Draft Resolution of Support is included in the meeting packet.

Motion:

GBOS moves to adopt the Resolution of Support for Girdwood Health Clinic Phase 2 modification and design variance as presented.

Motion by BS/2nd GW

Motion carries 5-0 via roll call vote

9. **Agenda Item LUC 2204-07:** Marijuana License Renewal. Request for public hearing, if desired, is required by resolution no later than June 1, 2022. If no hearing is required, request GBOS Letter of Non-Objection for The Herbal Cache. Similar to liquor licenses, prior to license renewal there is an opportunity for community councils to address complaints of licensees by requesting hearing. No complaints have been made regarding The Herbal Cache. As with liquor licenses, GBOS can provide a Letter of Non-Objection, which will be forwarded to the MOA and State during license renewal. A draft Letter of Non-Objection is included in the meeting packet.

Motion:

GBOS moves to accept the Letter of Non-Objection as written for the Herbal Cache license renewal.

Motion by BS/2nd GW

Motion carries 5-0 via roll call vote

10. Update on status of HLB Draft 2022 Annual Work Program and 5 Year Management Plan. Comments from GBOS were received prior to the deadline. This project is pending due to staffing change at HLB. It is unlikely to be on the HLB agenda for May.
11. **Agenda Item LUC 2201-06:** Girdwood Industrial Park concerns (power, platting)
Adam Trombley has been invited to do a site visit to understand the critical issues at the Industrial Park; Emma Giboney, HLB staff did come for a site visit. Emma is working on improving access to 5 new Industrial Park lessees, which were negotiated by Shelley Rowton. GVSA and other lessees needs related to power and platting are pending and are outside of the capacity for Emma to handle currently.
12. **Agenda Item LUC 2201-07:** Update on State Senate redistricting.
Several Girdwood community members filed lawsuit regarding the proposed redistricting that would pair Girdwood with Eagle River and would result in Eagle River having 10% of the Senate representation for 5% of the population. Hearing was last Thu and the judge at that time committed to a decision by the evening of the 16th (tonight). It is possible that the decision will be appealed to the State Supreme Court. This impacts the fall State election, for which there are filing deadlines this summer. If it does go to the Supreme Court, it will be heard quickly.
13. Update on GBOS Resolution 2020-11 Resolution Against Racism & community forum (Guy Wade)
Guy has been reaching out to several groups to determine how to hold a forum on racism as the 2020 Resolution indicated. He will continue to work with subject matter experts and will report what he learns, it is likely there will be some costs in holding such a forum. GBOS will need to approve funding as those needs are known. Guy anticipates that this forum will be held in the fall.

NEW BUSINESS:

14. GVSA 2023 Budgets. Discuss meeting dates for 3 work sessions June-Aug 2022 to discuss Operating and Capital Budgets. Staff will poll for 3 dates to hold work sessions regarding budgets for 2023. It is possible that only 2 will be needed and the 3rd date can be held in reserve. Guy Wade encourages sharing dates with GFR Board of Directors so that they can plan to attend the meetings relating to the Fire budget.
15. **Agenda Item LUC 2205-05:** Request for GBOS Letter of Objection to Constitutional Convention, Cathy Giessel, presenting, Donna Phillips, sponsor. <https://defendakconstitution.com/>
Cathy Giessel explains that the call to consider a Constitutional Convention is required every 10 years, for the last 50 years voters have rejected the need by a vote of 2 to 1. This year there are interest groups that are lobbying for the Constitutional Convention, including the Alaska Independence Party and Alaska Family Council. Effort of the Defend the Constitution group is to educate Alaskans about the issue so that they can make good decision when the item appears on the ballot. Constitutional Convention is unnecessary at this time – it's required to consider it, however the existing Constitution allows for targeted amendments. This system has been successful in making changes that have been needed. Constitutional Convention is expensive – Estimated \$17M for a 75 day convention, which seems like a short time considering the legislature has been meeting for longer than that with still no budget. The upheaval of state systems during 4 years of process to hold the convention and then approve the document (or not) has possibility social unrest and uncertainty. Constitutional Convention is dangerous – Convention requires plenary power, unlimited power, of all aspects of the state constitution. This could impact any/all aspects under the state constitution, including social issues, selection of judges, school funding, etc.

GBOS members discuss if this is an appropriate item for GBOS to take on in their elected role.

Topic will return in June, there is not urgency to have decision at that time. Item will be renamed for Resolution of Support for future meetings.

16. **Agenda Item LUC 2205-07:** Girdwood Chamber of Commerce request for GBOS Resolution of Support for request of Anchorage Heritage Land Bank to amend or cancel the request for proposals for HLB parcels 6-011, 6-016 and 6-017 [Holtan Hills], in order to advance policies of; 1) increasing the supply of workforce housing in Girdwood; 2) address the results of the required moa impact studies; 3) limit the use of Holtan Hills property for short term rentals by using tools such as deed restriction. (Patty Wilbanks, presenting)
Girdwood Chamber held 2 meetings that were well-attended by membership and resulted in letters that have been forwarded to LUC, GBOS and HLB. Concern is that the proposed HLB disposal of land will not result in more homes for those who need housing who live and work in Girdwood. Land sale is not addressing the needs of the community; there is no study of the impact of the local community because of the proposed land sale. Request is to amend or cancel the RFP.

Earlier in the evening GBOS agreed that they will schedule a GBOS/LUC Town Hall style meeting prior to June 20 to discuss Holtan Hills development.

REPORTS:

17. Committee & Subcommittee Reports (see packet)
PSAC Report
Girdwood Trails Committee Report
LUC Report
Housing Working Group Report
18. Other reports (see packet)
APL Gerrish Library Report
Girdwood Service Area Report
Imagine!Girdwood

Action Item Updates as assigned:

Request for GBOS/LUC Joint meeting (0 held of 2 required in 2022):

Request for GBOS/GFR Joint meeting (0 held of 2 required in 2022):

Request for Executive Session:

Other:

Adjourn 9:12PM