

Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee Regular Meeting

June 5, 2023

Minutes Final

This meeting will be held via Teams with in-person attendance at the Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Dr.

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 Public Safety Advisory Committee operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.

7PM Call to order Emily Lewis, Co-Chair

Roll Call: Attending are Emily Lewis, Ken Waugh and Mike Opalka, GBOS PSAC Representative Amanda Sassi

Tommy O'Malley is excused

Quorum confirmed

Agenda approval for June 5 2023 Mike Opalka/Ken Waugh assent vote

Minutes approval from May 1 2023 Ken Waugh/Mike Opalka assent vote

Announcements/Introductions/Presentation:

None

Old Business:

1) Community relations opportunities:

Farmers Markets: Group decides to target markets on July 16 and Aug 13 for table and outreach. Fire Dept may also join if available. PSAC members and GFD will assemble some items to give away, such as drug neutralizer kits and maybe Narcan.

Facebook: information regarding meetings is shared via facebook.

Newspaper & Newsletters: Emily has provided information to new newspaper in the past, Michelle is writing articles. It is likely that PSAC could add an article or info for future publications. Girdwood Inc has a newsletter, Ken Waugh will follow up with Dale on inclusion in this publication as well.

Other ideas are realtors' newsletters. Both Erin Eker and Sam Daniel send information out at least quarterly.

Engagement with the clinic: Ken Waugh has applied to serve on the Clinic Board.

Michelle Weston will work on a draft contact info page that can be shared with the community through these avenues. She will also include fire burn day info etc. Margaret will review prior policing frequently asked questions and send them to Emily and Ken for review.

2) Discuss status of upgrades to Whittier Police Station in Girdwood, owned by ACS.

Kyle has a walk-thru scheduled with ACS later this month and will have more information to share at the next PSAC Meeting.

3) Events: Discuss preparation for Forest Fair

Police will have staffing to provide overlapping coverage throughout the fair.

Fire Dept bumping up minimum staffing to 8 during the fair; have requested command bus and will have Narcan kits.

APD will have increased speed enforcement on the Seward Highway.

Impound lot will be set up for parking/towing enforcement.

- 4) Request for GVSA funding to hold cyber-bullying presentation by Homer Police Lt. Ryan Browning in Oct 2023 @ NTE \$1100.
Amanda found that there is a grant available through the Anchorage Community Foundation, funded by GCI for internet safety. Emily is applying for \$2700 to provide 3 sessions (2 in Girdwood, 1 in Whittier) with Lt. Browning in October. No match required for this grant. Application is due June 14 and PSAC should be notified in early July.

Staff recommends checking with Tommy as he was going to request that Public Safety join Girdwood Inc so that they can receive and hold non-municipal funds. Project would fall under Girdwood Inc tax ID #. Staff recommends that this item is postponed to next meeting so if needed it is still available as an action item. Item is also on the GBOS agenda for June. It will be postponed to July.

New business:

- 5) None

Other Business:

- 6) Review upcoming community events:
Girdwood Market in Town Square Park June 18; July 2,16, 30; Aug 13, 27
Girdwood Forest Fair July 7-9 2023; friends weekend June 30-July 2

- 7) Girdwood Grassroots concerns from prior meetings:

- Alyeska Highway Pedestrian Safety Corridor (Bike Path) concerns

Blatant dangerous mis-use of the bike path is a large concern. Bollards are now in place.

GVSA will request bid to repaint the pedestrian only decals on the bike path, if under \$5,000 repainting can occur with change in structure of budget to pay for it. If over \$5,000, funding will need to be requested via MOA purchasing.

- Speeding concerns:

State Roads: Alyeska Highway, Crow Creek Rd, Mt. Hood at Airport – study TBA

MOA Roads: Timberline, Alyeska View, Mt. Hood at Neighborhood – study pending

Kyle will follow up on status of the State and MOA in performing speed studies this summer on their roads.

- Parking concerns – Timberline – signage under review by Traffic Dept
Loveland, Olympic Mtn Loop

Kyle will follow up on parking signage request of MOA traffic Dept.

- Alyeska Highway interchange impact on Public Safety

DOT met with Police and Fire dept regarding their concerns with the interchange design. Michelle provided list of concerns of the Fire Dept in accessing locations where accidents are likely to occur, based on divided highway (one-way road) and turning radius. DOT indicated that DOT is leaning toward not installing a locking gate at Toadstool, which will improve access to the highway via this route.

- Seward Highway enforcement by APD impact on WPD

APD and WPD have received grant funds for increased enforcement during holiday periods for highway enforcement. APD has not requested WPD assist with regular enforcement, has called for assistance for specific issues.

- 8) Roundtable comments from the PSAC board

Opalka – None

Waugh – request update on Airport Lease. 30 day competitive bid and comment period ends June 12. DOT has advised that an extension to the comment period will be added on June 13, ending July 12. During that time, as competitive bid will have closed, it will be possible for the developers to discuss their plans in more detail and hear comments from the community based on the more detailed information. Developer has indicated that they are interested in hearing the community ideas on the project through a stakeholder group, however given the timing of

the comment period extension, the majority of communication is likely to occur at the GBOS meeting on June 19, possibly LUC on July 10.

- 9) Confirm next meeting date:
July 3 likely cancel; Aug 7 is likely next regular meeting

Public Safety Reports:

WPD Update (WPD Chief Andre Achee) – Increased traffic enforcement and summer operations.

GFR Update (Chief Michelle Weston) – May had 30 calls, including 2 mud rescue responses. Hope is now getting a mud rescue tool so that they can respond quickly to mud issues. AFD not supporting station move-ups, so if calls are simultaneous, AFD backfill occurs from their home station in South Anchorage.

GBOS Public Safety Supervisor report (Amanda Sassi): GBOS meeting to discuss HLB 1 and 5 year plans tomorrow. Moose Meadow Creek, Mt. Hood/Tahoe crossing will be having fish culverts installed this summer.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn 7:54PM

Girdwood Public Safety Advisory Committee is a sub-committee to the Girdwood Board of Supervisors