



MINUTES FINAL
Girdwood Trails Committee Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, 2022 7:00PM

Girdwood Trails Committee meetings are taking place on Teams

GTC Voting members are defined as is any person eighteen (18) years of age or older who has attended one or more Trails Committee meetings in the last 12 months, and is:

- a) a current resident and/or property owner, business owner or designated representative of a non-profit association; and
- b) who has resided in, owned property in, owned a business located in, or operated as a non-profit association for the preceding ninety (90) days or longer in Girdwood Valley.

Attendance is verified through a sign-in sheet available at each meeting, or equivalent process.

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 Trails Committee operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.

Call to Order 7PM, Carolyn Brodin, Chair

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------|
| Approval of April 12 2022 Regular Meeting agenda | Kalie Harrison/Barb Crews | Assent Vote |
| Approval of March 1, 2022 Regular Meeting minutes | Kalie Harrison/Barb Crews | |
| Amendment to language under Other Business | Paul Crews/Barb Crews | Assent Vote |
| Approval of amended March 1 Regular Meeting Minutes | Kalie Harrison/Barb Crews | Assent Vote |
| Approval of March 22 2022 Special Meeting minutes | Kalie Harrison/Barb Crews | Assent Vote |

Announcements & Presentations: None

Introductions: All attending are asked to introduce themselves; new/returning member:
Sue Lelevier

Public Comment (3 minutes each): Public Comment must be on subjects not listed on the agenda.

Deb Croghan lists the following items:

- voting and how best to vote
- time limit on GTP discussion to allow GTC to address the rest of their agenda tonight
- Request for update on status of suspension bridge, request to add this to reports
- Request for update on winter grooming status and request for update on how grooming costs are handled
- Lions Club Park status update

Voting is addressed: vote via roll call, chat or poll. Depending on how people are joining the meeting, some of these options may work better than others, but one of them should work for everyone. The remaining items will be addressed in the existing agenda.

Julie Jonas: Thank you to groomers and other volunteers.

Old Business:

1. Girdwood Trails Plan: Discussion will end at 8:20 to allow the remaining agenda items to be discussed.

Continue presentation and voting on GTC member suggested changes to GTP introduced at the Jan 18 2022 GTC meeting, starting at Amendment #5, which was postponed at the 3.22.22 special meeting.

Next Meeting: May 3, 2022

Girdwood Trails Committee Agendas and minutes are available on line: www.muni.org/gtc

Item from March 22 meeting is:

Motion:

GTC moves to accept Amendment 5: GTP should differentiate between activities during summer/winter use in the trails plan.

Motion by Eryn Boone/2nd by Julie Jonas

Motion pulled by petitioner following discussion.

Group continues discussion, mainly landing on the vague nature of the language, which is mainly intended for the Virgin Creek Natural Space, but would likely have consequence to other Natural Spaces.

Several GTC members express that this type of management is something that should be addressed in the Trails Management Plan, rather than the Master Plan as it is management related.

Motion:

GTC moves to call the question and vote on this item.

Motion by Justin Thomas, 2nd by Brian Burnett

Chair notes that there are still hands up and this item has not been fully discussed yet. Moving to vote at this time requires 2/3 in favor.

Vote by voice, chat and poll has 32 in favor, 18 opposed, which does not meet the 2/3 majority required.

Motion fails

Group returns to discussion, looping back on the Trails Management Plan as a tool to work through specifics of addressing the concern of seasonal use of bikes in the Virgin Creek area. Update of the Trails Management Plan is typically handled annually by a GTC subcommittee formed for that purpose with a list of elements that have been identified for the GTC for review and update. Recent review has been delayed by the Trails Master Plan process. Once the Girdwood Trails Master Plan is approved, there will be adjustments needed in the Trails Management Plan, and GTC can discuss specifically winter mechanized use in the Virgin Creek area.

As a result of this conversation, Eryn Boone pulls her proposed amendment.

Amendment #6

(Thomas)

Amend description of primitive trails as follows in red.

Areas for Primitive Trails: One way in which this plan improves the balance and diversity of Girdwood's trail system is by identifying areas where primitive trails are desired. Areas that prioritize primitive trails without prohibiting other uses serve a variety of purposes, including both conservation and recreation, non-mechanized recreation activities like trail walking, running, hiking, skiing, snowshoeing, orienteering, foraging, wildlife viewing, education, solitude, and meditation are the primary uses.

Motion:

GTC moves to adopt the language proposed above.

Motion by Justin Thomas, 2nd by Paul Crews

Amended motion:

GTC moves to amend the language as follows into the paragraph above: "without prohibiting other developed trail uses"

Amended motion by Paul Crews, no 2nd

Discussion of motion and proposed amendment returns to the idea that this is perhaps a Trails Management Plan item rather than a Trails Master Plan one. In addition, it seems that proposed Amendment #8 may resolve this concern. There is confusion about the proposed amendment and a conflict in language later in the sentence about "non-mechanized use".

Motion:

GTC move to table discussion of Amendment 6 until Amendment 8 is discussed.

Motion by Justin Thomas, 2nd by Paul Crews

Vote via chat, poll, and voice vote

47 in favor, 6 opposed, 3 abstaining

Motion carries

Discussion of Trail Master Plan is ended for this meeting. Discussion will begin with Amendment 7 at the next meeting.

Consider date for Special meeting, if needed.

No Special Meeting date is selected. Next discussion will take place at the May 3 Regular GTC meeting.

2 . Discussion regarding addition of parliamentarian to assist in meetings

Petitioner for this item is not attending this evening's meeting. GTC has the assistance of MOA parliamentarian throughout the Girdwood Trails Plan process. This item is to address the need of parliamentarian at meetings in the future, either by finding a member of GTC to take this on or some other assignment. Acting as parliamentarian does preclude the opportunity for that person to vote, requires certification as a parliamentarian, and requires attendance at GTC meetings. It is suggested that the UAA debate team may have the skills and seek volunteer service in this capacity. Deb Croghan offers to reach out to UAA and pursue this possibility. Topic will remain on the GTC agenda for continued discussion.

3. Discuss meeting style options for future GTC meetings (virtual, hybrid, in-person) (Briana Sullivan)

GBOS authorized purchase of equipment for hybrid meetings, staff has been testing the equipment with expected roll-out for all committees in May. Poll of the community shows interest in meetings being held both virtually and in-person. Staff and executive committee will attend in person.

4. Discuss mechanics of new/old Business topics and what is needed to take immediate action on new business items.

GTC Operating Principles already address that items to be considered with just one meeting require 2/3 vote. Group determines that they would like to update to include the questions to be answered by petitioners, which is consistent with GBOS and LUC adjustments to their operating rules. Operating Principles will be updated and a draft presented to GTC at their May meeting for a vote.

Motion:

GTC moves to extend the meeting to 9:15 to complete agenda discussion.

Motion by Barb Crews, 2nd Eryn Boone

Motion carries by assent vote.

New Business:

5. Discuss request for letter of support for State CAPSYS Funding of the Alaska Long Trail (Kalie Harrison)
Alaska Trails is requesting a letter of support for the Alaska Long Trail. CAPSYS is the State of Alaska capital funding system. This item will be addressed more fully and a draft letter will be presented at the May 3 GTC meeting.

6. Discuss July GTC meeting and possibility of canceling/rescheduling it as a work party.
July meeting is traditionally not held as it falls close to Forest Fair and July 4 activities. Replacing with a work party allows GTC to work on projects with volunteer match for those grants that are active and have volunteer match component, such as Stumpy's signage project, Virgin Creek Falls Trail alignment and signage and Hand Tram Interpretive sign project. This item will be discussed more fully at the May GTC meeting.

Other:

7. Trails Issues

Virgin Creek Falls Trailhead re-route (Kyle Kelley):

Project under KMTA grant, GVSA is seeking an SCA Crew for summer 2022 to help with trail tread improvements and is hiring summer parks crew. Currently have 1 position hired, the 2nd may be filled by a returning summer employee.

Update on Stumpy's Winter Trail Interpretive sign project (Barb Crews): KMTA grant project. Barb and her group present the current draft of the sign. Patty Hamre states that the Faulkner family is pleased with the outcome and eager to see it installed. Location of installation is off the Arlberg parking lot (5K lot) next to the trash can.

Update on Virgin Creek Falls Trail Interpretive sign project (Margaret Tyler). This is part of the grant with KMTA for trail tread improvement. Draft sign is presented in the packet, working out some of the language and map.

Suspension Bridge: GVSA is seeking funding from state and federal sources. Received notification today that GTC/GVSA has been invited to apply for a tier 2 grant for \$250,000, application due the end of April. Other funding sources are another round of American Recovery Act funds and State of Alaska CAPSYS funds. Working with the USFS on the project to ensure that the suspension bridge meets their requirements as the goal long term is to turn management and maintenance over to the USFS. Suspension bridges in Alaska under federal oversight are new. GVSA is working with civil engineering firm Reid Middleton, who have secured a local engineer who has worked on suspension bridges in Alaska for design documents.

Winter Grooming: Grooming is ongoing and will continue as long as possible based on conditions.

Girdwood Nordic Ski Club and Girdwood Parks and Rec share costs and responsibilities as follows:

Fuel for grooming is paid for by Girdwood Parks and Rec.

Maintenance costs for machines are split between the two organizations. Each organization owns 1 snow machine. Local volunteer mechanic works on machines, which saves both organizations on maintenance costs.

8. April LUC/GBOS Meeting Representatives – GTC executive committee will ensure attendance

9. Written Reports are included in meeting packet:

- Fall Storm (Oct 29-Nov 1) Damage and repair to trails.
- Financial Report & Grants Status report
- GBOS
- Other Girdwood Trail Partners Updates: GNSC; Bikewood; Friends of Girdwood Trails; Girdwild; KMTA; Imagine! Girdwood

Adjourn 9:15PM

| Chat and voice votes 4.12.22 | | Vote 1 | | | Vote 2 | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|----|---------|---|----|---------|
| Name | | Call question on Amendment # | | | Table motion on Amendment 6 until after GTC addresses Amendment 8 | | |
| | | Yes | No | Abstain | Yes | No | Abstain |
| Amanda | Sassi | | | | | | |
| Ann | Ostroski | | | | | | |
| Barb | Crews | | | | | | |
| Barbara | Lydon | | | | | | |
| Becky | Germain | | | | | | |
| Ben | Napolitan | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Ben | Kohler | | | | | | |
| Bob | Dugan | | | | | | |
| Brian | Burnett | | | | | | |
| Briana | Sullivan | | | | | | |
| Carolyn | Brodin | | | | | | |
| Catherine | McDermott | | | | | | |
| Cindy | Wilson | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Clayton | Krueger | | | | | | |
| Dan | Starr | | | | | | |
| Dave | Hamre | | | | | | |
| Deb | Essex | | | | | | |
| Deb | Rice | | | | | | |
| Deb | Croghan | | | | | | |
| Doug | Penn | vote counted in poll | | | | 1 | |
| Duffy | Daniels | | | | | | |
| Eileen | Halverson | | 1 | | | | |
| Eric | Steinfort | voted after closed | | | | | |
| Eryn | Boone | | | | | | |
| Guy | Wade | | | | 1 | | |
| Jason | Stancil | | | | | | |
| Jeff | Stevenson | | | | | | |
| Jessica | Daniels | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Jody | Jenkins | | | | | | |
| John | Trautner | | | | 1 | | |
| Jonathan | Lee | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| Julie | Jonas | | | | | | |
| Justin | Thomas | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Kalie | Harrison | | 1 | | | | |
| Kate | Sandberg | | | | | | |
| Kathy | Trautner | | | | | | |
| Kevin | McDermo | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Kintla | Penn | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| Kyle | Kelley | | | | | | |
| Laurie | Penn | | 1 | | | 1 | |
| Lin | Hinderma | 1 | | | | | |
| Lori | Harris | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Marc | Esslinger | voted after closed | | | | | |
| Margaret | Tyler | | | | | | |
| Marguerit | Leeds | voted after closed | | | 1 | | |
| Martin | Cassens | | | | | | |
| Mary | Thomas | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Michelle | Cosper | | | | | | |
| Patty | Hamre | | 1 | | | | |
| Paul | Wilson | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Paul | Crews | | | | | | |
| Peter | Zug | | | | | | |
| Peter | Ostroski | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Phil | Ostroski | | | | | | |
| Rebecca | Reichlin | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Rich | Peterson | | | | | | |
| Sabrina | Hamilton | 1 | | | | | |
| Saraj | Gottstein | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Scott | Thomas | | | | | | |
| Shannon | O'Brien | | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Sherry | Dugan | | | | 1 | | |
| Sophie | Ostroski | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Steve | Halverson | | | | 1 | | |
| Sue | Lelevier | new member | | | | | |
| Terin | Martinjak | | | | | | |
| Terry | Mercurio | 1 | | | | | |
| Tim | Lydon | | | | | | |
| Zach | Behney | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Total Chat and voice | | 14 | 9 | | 19 | 4 | |
| Total poll | | 18 | 9 | 4 | 28 | 2 | 3 |
| total all | | 32 | 18 | | 47 | 6 | 3 |
| | | Motion fails supermajority | | | Motion passes | | |

| Name | Motion to call the question and move to vote on Amendment 5 |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| BKohler | Yes |
| Burntski | Yes |
| paul crews (Guest) | Yes |
| Catherine McDermott (Guest) | Yes |
| Briana (Guest) | Yes |
| ASassi & ZBehney | Yes |
| Becky Germain (Guest) | No |
| Kate Sandberg (Guest) | Yes |
| Barbara Crews (Guest) | No |
| Michelle Cospier | Yes |
| Jason Stancil | Abstain |
| Robert Dugan (Guest) | Yes |
| Deb Essex (Guest) | Yes |
| Carolyn (Guest) | No |
| Ann & Philip Ostroski (Guest) | Yes |
| Margaret Tyler | Abstain |
| Jonas (Guest) | Abstain |
| Scott Thomas (Guest) | Yes |
| Kyle Kelley | Abstain |
| Jeff Stevenson Sabrina Hamilton | Yes |
| Eryn (Guest) | No |
| Martin Cassens | Yes |
| Peter Zug (Guest) | Yes |
| Barbara Lydon | No |
| TerinMartinjak/PeterOstroski (Guest) | Yes |
| Steve and Eileen Halverson (Guest) | No |
| Rich Peterson | Yes |
| doug penn (Guest) | No |
| Jody Jenkins (Guest) | Yes |
| Tim Lydon | No |
| Debra Croghan (Guest) | No |

| Name | Motion to table Amendment #6 |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Burntski | Yes |
| Deb Essex (Guest) | Yes |
| ASassi & ZBehney | Yes |
| BKohler | Yes |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Kate Sandberg (Guest) | Yes |
| Michelle Cospers | Yes |
| John And Kathy Trautner | Yes |
| Scott Thomas (Guest) | Yes |
| Catherine McDermott (Guest) | Yes |
| Patty Hamre (Guest) | Yes |
| Briana (Guest) | Yes |
| Lin Hinderman (Guest) | Yes |
| Marc Esslinger | Yes |
| Jason Stancil | Abstain |
| Jonas (Guest) | Yes |
| Becky Germain (Guest) | Yes |
| Barbara Crews (Guest) | Yes |
| Peter Zug (Guest) | Yes |
| Terry Mercurio | Yes |
| Rich Peterson (Guest) | Yes |
| duffy and jessica daniels (Guest) | Yes |
| Martin Cassens | Yes |
| Dan Starr (Guest) | Yes |
| Kyle Kelley | Abstain |
| Carolyn (Guest) | Yes |
| Eric Steinfert (Guest) | Yes |
| Eryn (Guest) | Yes |
| Margaret Tyler | Abstain |
| Steve and Eileen Halverson (Guest) | Yes |
| Tim Lydon | No |
| Barbara Lydon | No |
| TerinMartinjak/PeterOstroski (Guest) | Yes |
| Ann & Phlip Ostroski (Guest) | Yes |