

Seward State Parks Citizen Advisory Board

Minutes

May 18, 2022 5:30-7:30 pm

Teleconference

I. Call to Order

- A. Call to Order: 5:30 pm by Chair Griswold
- B. Minutes taker: Carol Griswold
- C. Roll Call: Bob Barnwell, Carol Griswold, Paul Paquette, Cliff Reid, Tess Tulley, Kat Sorensen, Mica Van Buskirk
- D. Board members absent (excused): Nick Jordan, Mark Luttrell
- E. State Park Staff: Superintendent Jack Blackwell, District Ranger Jack Ransom, Sue Levinson, State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Wendy Sailors, ADNR Director's Office
- F. Public Present: none
- G. Minutes Approval for April 20, 2022: Paul moved, Tess second, unanimous
- H. Agenda Changes and Approval: Change to add presentation by Sue to agenda under A3. Kat moved, Bob second, unanimous

II. Public Comments: none

III. Board Contact and Correspondence: none

IV. Reports:

I. Reports

A. Staff Report

A1. Jack Blackwell: May 7 Lowell Point Road landslide stranded about 60 vehicles at Lowell Point which were later barged to Seward by Harris Sand and Gravel. Parks suspended park fees charged by water taxis and offered assistance to KPB Emergency Management.

LPSRS access recommendations are helpful for Director to take action.

A2. Jack Ransom: Thanks to Nick Jordan, Karl Van Buskirk, and Tom Miller for their contributions, a huge resource and major asset in notifying park users about situation, posting signs, and providing water taxi shuttle services and trash removal.

A3. Sue Levinson gave a presentation on the 2023-2027 update of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, SCORP, which is required in order to be eligible for grants from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. SCORP guides and advocates for funding. The Outdoor Recreational Trails Advisory Board (ORTAB) decides on the allocation. The LWCF matching grants help fund land acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation infrastructure, and Recreational Trails Program projects. Other broad projects include parking, public-use cabins, the water/marine trails, Long Trail, bridges for the Iditarod National Historic Trail.

Strong local advocacy is needed to show support for projects and to lobby the State for the 50% match. Sue noted there are currently no specific projects or shovel-ready projects for Seward. She noted that it is important to be as specific as possible. Mica suggested adding deferred maintenance items. Jack B suggested including and highlighting Lowell Point access issue recommendations.

Wendy Sailors advised she manages social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and the DNR website. Kodiak sends her a lot of photos to post on-line. We can too:

Wendy.sailors@alaska.gov

A public survey and plan review will be open for comment in October 23-November 23, 2022. This item will be on our September 21 meeting agenda.

<https://www.alaskacorp.org/>

B. Committee Reports

1. Local issues (except parking): Paul reported he found the LPSRS SE survey monument by the boat launch ROW. The landing craft needed more room to load vehicles, so the beach barrier rocks were lifted and moved. The barge is taking 16 cars per day and running smoothly. Paul and Jack R will check the rock location on Friday re: the ROW boundary. Mica reported that KPB Roads Director Dil Uhlin is at Lowell Point now and will be at the Thursday KPB Emergency Management meeting.
2. Parking Access: After extensive discussion, Carol moved for approval of the list of recommendations for resolving parking issue, attached below. Paul seconded, unanimous.
3. Mining (Cliff, Bob): Mineral Closure Option **Due to lack of time, this will be moved to the next meeting.**
4. Legislative Committee (Bob, Mica): **List of recommended budget items.** See draft list attached below.

V. Old Business: Due to lack of time, these will be moved to the next meeting.

1. Explore creation of Friends of Seward Area State Parks (Bob, Tess)
2. Blackwell: provide plat or as-built showing LPSRS parking lot footprints

VI. New Business: Due to lack of time, these will be moved to the next meeting.,

1. Tidepool etiquette brochures (Carol): CJ Rae at NPS referred to an old ADFG brochure which is no longer available. ADFG recommendations online at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=viewing.tidepooling>
<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=viewing.tidepooletiquette>
California State Parks resources:
https://www.mywaterquality.ca.gov/eco_health/ocean/tide_pools/rules.html
<https://www.crystalcovestatepark.org/tidepool-etiquette/>
<https://www.crystalcovestatepark.org/faq-tidepool/#:~:text=Never%20collect%20shells%2C%20rocks%20or,are%20attached%20to%20the%20rocks.>
https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24075
2. Permits required for collecting animals and seaweed: ASLC, Kenai Fjords Tours/Marine Science Explorer Program, Alutiiq Pride Marine Institute have permits from ADFG but did not realize they need them from State Parks. State Parks has no idea who, when, or what is being collected. Suggest State Parks contact them and advise they need to obtain permits from State Parks and send reports so State Parks understands how the resources of Lowell Point Beach and Pinnacle Rock are being used.
<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=viewing.tidepoolcollecting>

3. Non-commercial use by educational groups for field trips, including homeschools, public schools, and other groups should also obtain permits showing dates, ages, and numbers to better understand how the resources of Lowell Point Beach and Pinnacle Rock are being used.

4. Follow-up on Eagle Scout projects in park (Mica, Jack R)

VII. Informational Items:

1. State of Alaska Generally Allowed Uses re: recreational mining excerpts
2. Carol posted laminated tide charts for second quarter at both LPSRS kiosks.

VIII. Public Comments: none

IX. Adjournment

- A. Board Comments:
- B. Date/Location of next meeting: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 5:30 pm. TBA
- C. Cliff moved for adjournment, Paul seconded, unanimous, 7:38 pm.

Draft Budget Request: (no particular order): *also in Lowell Point parking issue solutions

Relocate Tonsina PUC away from erosional slope

Replace LPSRS latrines

In-town secure storage for equipment, boat: 0.51 acres at 707 Fifth Ave/DNR?

*Fund plowing and sanding of LPSRS lower parking lot

*Expand LPSRS upper and lower parking

*Carrying Capacity Study for Lowell Point SRS and Caines Head SRA

*Bury electric lines along Pinnacle, fill and level for parking within park,
construct pedestrian walkway off road within park boundaries

Update Management Plan for Resurrection Bay and Marine State Park units

Draft Lowell Point Parking Issue Solutions: (no particular order) *also in budget request

Short-term:

*Fund winter plowing and maintenance of both parking lots

Move boulders on beach west 15-20' to expand boat launch into park

Remove trees and shrubs on KPBR ROW by boat launch to expand access

Post "Day Use Only, No Camping" signs at lower parking lot to retain parking for turnover

Create and sign "Permit-holder Parking" and "Long-term Parking" areas in upper parking lot or at LP Community Center (fee area) in designated spaces

Compress parking curbs and angle-stripe parking lots to increase number of spaces

Install physical barriers (jersey barriers) at corner or along Pinnacle between lower parking lot entrance and boat launch (road diet)

Request borough enforcement of parking along Pinnacle View Road

Assess whether additional signs are needed (No Parking/Fire Lane/Tow-away Zone) along Pinnacle View Road

Long-term:

- *Expand/widen lower parking lot by filling in part of the wetlands
Evaluate less than 1/10th acre and more than 1/10th acre
- *Expand upper parking lot
- Realign Pinnacle View Road in ROW
- *Bury electric lines along Pinnacle, fill and level for parking within park,
construct pedestrian walkway off road within park boundaries
- Provide/require off-site parking for cruise ship buses and other visitors
- Promote shuttle service from town
- Use an on-line parking space reservation system
- *Carrying Capacity Study for Lowell Point SRS and Caines Head SRA
- *Update Management Plan for Resurrection Bay and Marine State Park units

Notes: Keep this running list in mind for our draft Priority and Goals and budget request list:

In-town secure storage for equipment, boat.

Emergency shelter and storage at upper Tonsina parking lot.

KPB Emergency Director Brenda Ahlberg FEMA \$

Purchase of front-end loader to assist with evacuation and plowing

Purchase of skid steer to maintain boulder barrier at LPSRS

Mooring buoys for Thumb Cove and North Beach

2021 2-24 CHSRA deferred maintenance needs list

Replace Derby and North Beach toilets

Recondition trails to provide adequate drainage

Reroute Overland trail from Derby Cove to North Beach

Repaint picnic shelter, replace gravel under foundation and roof

Secure concrete blocks that cover floor trenches with new hardware, replace signs

Replace 4 rusted bulletin boards, picnic tables, and fire rings

Repair trail leading from North Beach to South Beach and the Fort ie Fort Trail, South Beach Trail

Replace South Fork Tonsina Creek Bridge

Relocate Callisto Canyon PUC away from creek

Replace North Beach shelter

Replace Derby and Callisto PUC roofs and stoves

Stain four PUCs (Derby Cove, Callisto, Porcupine, Spruce)

Replace Loop Trail bridge ie Rainforest Trail

2021 2-24 LPSRS deferred maintenance needs list

Replace 2 old toilets with 2 double concrete vaulted toilets

Replace shop

Reconstruct drainage, CMPs for cross drainage, resurface access roadway and parking areas

Replace parking bumpers

Replace site signage