

**Talkeetna Parks Advisory Committee
Minutes of April 18, 2017 Meeting**

A regular meeting of the Talkeetna Parks Advisory Committee (“TPAC”) was held at the Talkeetna Library on April 18, 2017. Core members Billy Fitzgerald, John Strassenburgh, Ellen Wolf, Jim Trump, Roger Robinson, Chris Mannix, and Howard Carbone were present. Other attendees were Joe Page, Arthur Mannix, Jack West, Karen Mannix, Stacie Smiley, Troy Smiley, Mark Burcar, Suzanne Sloan Rust, Kathleen Holden, Ruth Wood, Pam Robinson, Whitney Wolff and Jeff Jolley. Our guest was Mark Goetsch from the Mat-Su Borough.

- I. Seven core members were in attendance, establishing a quorum. Howard Carbone called the meeting to order at 7:06.
- II. Tonight’s agenda was approved, as well as the minutes of the previous meeting.
- III. Howard C. reviewed the requirements for at-large TPAC membership and voting eligibility, and made available the current eligibility list.
- IV. Correspondence – none; Persons to be Heard – none
Announcements – Due to boundary expansion, more community members can become TPAC members from now on.
- V. YCC update – none as Laura Hoffman not in attendance.
- VI. Mat-Su Borough Update (Mark Goetsch)
 - A. Village park bathroom smell – the plan is to: (1) use regular charcoal in the filters (as opposed to expensive store-bought charcoal filters) and (2) have them pumped out more often.
 - B. There are several canoes in various condition stashed on the lakes. Mark would like direction on what to do about them. Moved to New Business.
 - C. Reported two incidents of four-wheeler and snowmachine travel into park from Whigme. Otherwise it was a good year.
- VII. Committee Reports
 - A. Comsat Talkeetna Lakes Park Access / Canoe Trail (Roger, Arthur, Howard)
 1. Roger reported: A group met last fall and to have a small parking lot constructed on north (Christensen Lake) side, midway along the straight away. A map was passed around. In addition to increased safety, this location would provide reasonable access to both lakes.
 2. Next step: Roger would like to do a cost estimate and more formal plan to present at next TPAC meeting, and eventually put it out for public review in accordance with MSB procedures.

B. TKA Lakes Park signage (Chris, Howard, Iris, Arthur)

1. Howard reported that the Borough is okay with us working on signage, but there are no MSB funds.
2. Next step: look for funds, either donations or a grant.
3. Karen Mannix volunteered to join this committee.
4. Arthur reported that Denali Nordic Ski Club plans to put an informational bulletin board at main parking lot.

C. Village Park (Howard)

1. Howard proposed the possibility of capping outhouse vents during Live at Five. Mark says that would be difficult.
2. Mark proposed that the picnic tables be anchored; the committee agreed, as long as they are in a good spot, and don't inhibit Frisbee, dancing, etc. in park center.
3. Mark reported that Geri D. will lead a group of kids in planting trees in the park.

D. Ridge Trail – Trail Development Plan – to be addressed under New Business

E. Whigme Parking Lot (Jim T)

Jim reported he spoke to Corinne Marzullo (USFS – Civil Engineer); they will do a walk around soon to discuss improved parking configuration.

F. Fish Lake access (Chris L, Jack W)

Jack reported that they met on March 9 to discuss access to north side of Fish Lake (bond money).

VIII. Unfinished Business - None

IX. New Business

A. Talkeetna Lake Park signage funding

Next step: Contact Zoya Johnson about possibly helping with a grant.

B. Talkeetna Ridge Trail – Trail Development Plan Final Version

1. History: TPAC via TCCI initiated request for this planning work; MSB and Mat-Su Parks and Trails Foundation provided funds (separate from Bond Package) in response to this request. Agnew::Beck was hired to do the planning and has now provided this Final Version.

2. Chris M. moved (Jim T. 2nd) that TPAC approve the plan and recommend that TCCI approve and recommend the plan to the MSB Assembly for approval and adoption. The motion passed unanimously. (Note: the initial vote included one opposed, but after checking the eligibility list, the acting chair determined that the person casting the opposed vote did not meet the at-large membership requirements and was not eligible to vote.)

3. Discussion: There were numerous comments submitted, almost all favorable. A concern about the green trails resulted in an added recommendation in the plan that further community evaluation of green trails will occur. Concerns about maintenance, signage, etc: there is not specific source of funds, so that will have to be forthcoming.

4. Jim T. moved (Roger 2nd) that TPAC write a letter that TCCI can send to MSB thanking them for their support on this process. Friendly amendments accepted to also thank Mat-Su Parks and Trails Foundation, Agnew::Beck, and Happy Trails. Motions passed unanimously. John S. volunteered to write the letter.

C. Fish Lake Easement realignment (form subcommittee)

This item was moved to Unfinished Business for our next meeting

D. Talkeetna Lakes canoe storage

1. At Christensen Lake, a rack for 8-12 canoes/small boats to be locked up will be constructed in response to the problem of multiple social trails interrupting the green belt around the shore.

2. At Talkeetna Lakes, we will do nothing this summer, but think about solutions as we watch what happens at Christensen Lake.

X. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18. Next meeting is June 20, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Wolf