

**Girdwood Trails Committee
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Girdwood Community Center, 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 3, 2011**

Call to Order

Carolyn Brodin called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Kate Sandberg took minutes. Others present were Jonnie Lazarus, Diana Livingston, Carol Sanner, Alison Rein, Norman Starkey, Elaine Halverson, Brian Burnett, and Debra Croghan.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of Mark Ryan's zip line proposal to the beginning of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes, April 5, 2011

The minutes were approved.

Introduction of Guests

Valerie DeLaune will join the committee. Celina Sumner from *Turnagain Times* and Mark Ryan of Alpine Zip Line also attended.

Old Business

Trail Issues

- **Zip Line Proposal**—Mark Ryan presented his proposal of a zip line on state land near Eagle Glacier and the head of Winner Creek. The zip line equipment would be entirely on snow and taken down each fall. Access would be by helicopter only, and the flight pattern would most likely follow the Upper Winner Creek Trail. He will require a land use permit and seasonal recreation permit. After considerable discussion, the Committee passed the following motion, 9-1.

Motion (Brian and seconded): The Trails Committee does not object to the land use as proposed by Alpine Zip Line, but we are concerned about noise impact over trails.

- **Hand Tram Issues** – The Committee agreed that Jonnie order a backup rope and an extra rope for the future because of the good price that saves money in the long run.

Brian and Jonnie have both been working with Superior Tramway to evaluate the retrofitting and/or reconstruction of the hand tram. Brian has contacted Mike Siedl, who worked on the construction of the hand tram in Kachemak Bay State Park, and the owner of Unique Machines, who may be willing to design parts for the cage. Jonnie and Brian will work more on this during May; the tram will stay locked for the month.

- **Beaver Pond Trail and Survey**—MOA Parks and Recreation city planners have

agreed to help us with the trail reconstruction and will come out to walk the trail in May. Jonnie will send out an email to those interested in walking the trail with them. The planners are also interested in avoiding high costs to survey Abe's Trail and California Creek Trail.

- Moose Meadow Trailhead and Parking Lot --Jonnie is working with MOA to design and build a new trailhead and parking lot. She has made considerable progress and city planners agree to begin the process. To that end, the following motion was passed, 8-1 abstention-0:

Motion (Kate and seconded): The Trails Committee approves in concept an improved trailhead and parking lot at Moose Meadow.

A sign needs to be made that says "Ski Trails" at the juncture of the Moose Meadow groomed loop and the spur to Horror Hill.

- Other Trail Issues—None

Budget and Grants

Diana announced that we did not get the Alaska National Trails Initiative Grant.

Summer Crew Plans

Three Youth Employment in Parks crews will arrive July 10th for one week. They'll work on the Beaver Pond Trail, primarily at the Y for the winter and summer trails. Signs will have to be made for directions at the Y and for the Beaver Pond Trailhead on Crow Creek Road. Matt Wedeking plans to replace the blue sign for Beaver Pond Trail on the Gird-to-Bird Pathway, and we hope to save that sign.

New Trails Maps

The group spent considerable time editing the maps and the text for directions. Kate will tell Todd about the map changes, make the final edits on the text, and send out final text for approval. Carolyn will take it from there.

Updates

- Memorandum of Understanding—Kate reported that John Rodda wrote that he has taken our suggestions for changes to the MOA Legal Department and will get back to us when they have responded.
- Conex Crew Plans, May 7 and 8—Brian will call John about the loader; Jonnie and Kate will bring food and drinks to the crew. Carol will donate coffee.
- 2011 Biennial Trails Rondy—Brian reported that he went to the Rondy on behalf of Girdwood Nordic Ski Club and that he made many contacts and went to a lot of helpful sessions for all Girdwood trails. He would like to bring the statewide group to Alyeska Resort in the future.

- May GBOS Meeting—Diana, Brian, or Carolyn will give the report.

New Business

Approval for post office box yearly expenditure—Kate asked for confirmation that the group wants to keep the post office box for \$70.00/year. It will be kept.

Other Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

**Next Meeting—June 7, 2011
Girdwood Community Center, 7:00 pm**