

ISLAND TRAILS NETWORK

Minutes of Regular Meeting

4/03/07

Call to order: Whipple called meeting to order 12:05 PM 4/03/07 in the Chamber Conference Room.

Quorum: A quorum was established, with Whipple, Shaw, Saltonstall and Foreman present.

Approval of Agenda: Foreman moved to add discussion on the presentation of Troy Duffin's "Trails as Assets" DVD as New Business. Saltonstall seconded. Carried 4-0. Saltonstall moved to approve the agenda as amended. Foreman seconded. Carried 4-0.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Foreman moved to approve the minutes as presented of the 3/06/07 meeting. Shaw seconded and it carried, 4-0.

Old Business:

Pillar Beach Cleanup: Schroeder briefed the board on planning & logistics for the event as described in the ED report (attached to these minutes). Discussion ensued over how to spend the additional \$360 made available by donated salvage services. After some discussion of the land uses there and stakeholders involved, board declined to pursue road improvements to the site. Instead, board directed staff to use the funds for educational and outreach purposes to further marine debris collection efforts. Harrington recommended free resources available from Alaska Sea Grant. This may include additional printing services (if donations not available) and other educational materials. Possible adopt-a-beach partnerships with local schools & scout organizations will also be explored.

New Business:

Crab Fest Participation: ITN will pursue both a "junk car" float at the parade in conjunction with Emerald Isle Off-road and sponsorship of the Crab Fest Kayak Race in conjunction with Subway and Orcas Unlimited. Costs for this participation will be minimal or none.

National Trails Day: June 2. We will encourage various local user groups serving as ac-hoc committees to organize small-scale trail outings, light improvement projects and cleanups with an emphasis on the health & well-being of using trails. ITN will host a get-together & open house at the

conclusion of the day with refreshments offered. Erin Harrington will lead the project with staff/board support. Biessel recommended free resources available from the American Hiking Society.

ITN Newsletter: New member Barb Volpe has mentioned a willingness to edit the ITN e-Newsletter. Andy will contact her to discuss possibilities & develop plan for content, frequency & distribution.

“Trails as Assets” presentation: Will be held April 17th, 12:00-1:00 at the Chamber Conference Room.

Reports:

ED Report: Circulated in hardcopy (attached).

Treasurer’s Report: Lachowsky was absent. Schroeder quoted his email “to date, we have received \$1440 in member contributions and \$1083.75 from the CoastWalk grant, total receivable of \$2523.75 Expenditures to date total \$1593.48, with the largest expenditure being the \$750 application fee with to the Internal Revenue Service. “

ED’s note: excluding all CoastWalk grant monies and expenses, we have \$301.21 for discretionary spending.

Public Comments:

Wayne Biessel: Alaska Trails is further developing their trail training curriculum. They are conducting training across the state & are recruiting instructors for the program. He encouraged ITN to invite them back for another Kodiak training session. Contact him or AT President Jack Mosby.

Alaska DNR is close to adopting a Trails Policy for state parks adopting the trail classification standards promulgated by USFS and now adopted by many federal agencies (USFWS, NPS etc.). This should be complete by mid to late May.

A great resource, Minnesota DNR’s Trails Plan is available for purchase, \$20 + shipping.

Terry Michalksi: Highlighted the public comment period for the EIS on Kodiak State Airport ends Apr 9. Kodiak Airport safety zones could extend across Buskin River beaches and trails. Biessel suggested googling “Kodiak Airport EIS” to find the applicable website.

He also reminded the board that he is involved in the Emerald Island Eco-Challenge and that a labor pool for trail projects will be available this August.

Board Member Comments:

Pam Foreman offered to assist staff in scheduling appearances at local service organizations including afternoon Rotary, Kiwanis, Soroptomist, and ASP advisory board. (Thanks!)

Patrick Saltonstall cautioned the board not to lose sight of our larger goals and big projects by becoming too busy with small ones.

Erin Whipple updated the board on the Portage Trail project, tentatively slated for 12-24 Sept. We are currently awaiting word on the Polaris TRAILS grant. Trail crew needs have probably been met.

Upcoming Meetings: None Chosen. *ED's note: We need to choose our next meeting.*

Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Also in Attendance:

Erin Harrington
Wayne Biessel
Terry Michalski