

ISLAND TRAILS NETWORK

Minutes of Regular Meeting

5/29/07

Call to order: Whipple called meeting to order 12:10 PM 5/29/07 in the Chamber Conference Room.

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

Approval of Agenda: Harrington moved to approve the agenda. Saltonstall seconded. Carried 6-0.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Saltonstall moved to approve the minutes as presented of the 5/29/07 meeting. Foreman seconded and it carried, 6-0.

Old Business:

National Trails Day: Harrington reported the NTD event will be held at The Harborside downtown in the morning at 10 A.M. ITN volunteers should try to show up at 8:30 or 9:00. The afternoon check-in and Web Forum workshop will be held at Harborside Fly-by from 3-6 PM. Press coverage will include KDM and KMXT, but will be largely word-of-mouth and grassroots efforts.

Planned outings include a kayak outing to Popof or Woody Island (Andy), a river trip or hike TBD (Patrick), an Audubon Society hike, KISAR outing, and a mountain bike trip (Erin). Harrington would like to get more groups involved, including 4H or an equestrian group.

The web forum has been updated to be more user-friendly for the post-event reception at the Fly By, where users will log on to the ITN website using free WiFi.

The volunteer trail form will be made available on the web, may be printed & mailed, or posted at trailheads, park headquarters etc. for future trail reports. Several changes were made to the form. A revised edition will come out shortly.

New Business:

Trails Inventory & Assessment. Discussion about ITN's role in the more formal trail surveying, inventorying and planning of trails. ITN will take an active role in inventorying trails, but will leave trail "planning" to

government entities. Though the KIB Parks & Rec committee has listed a Trails Planning process as their top priority, to date no funding has been identified for the project. ITN will seek an RTCA grant to partner with the KIB in conducting a comprehensive assessment of existing trail systems, providing that information at no cost to the borough to the extent that it is helpful to the Trails Plan. ITN will emphasize inventorying and protecting access to existing trails. The KIB may be able to assist with loaning GPS hardware & GIS mapping.

Also discussed were some areas slated for development or change, including Dark Lake/Beaver Lake area, the area of the old dams behind Selief Lane, Anton Larsen Bay and Cliff Point. This discussion emphasized the need for inventorying trails and working towards legal designation of these trails and routes.

Marine Debris Survey: The MD committee met on May 4th to help shape a scope of work we developed for a MD survey this summer. The resulting document proposes a study to identify and prioritize 7 significant deposits within a 10-mile radius of a population center, 7 significant deposits in areas of recreational value, all significant deposits in Kodiak, and to identify the relative distribution of marine debris density island-wide. We hope to do this by implementing volunteer reporting system and an aerial survey program over the next three months. The study may be used to validate future MD cleanups. The paper has gotten favorable reviews at Marine Conservation Alliance Foundation and is now under final review by NOAA. The only change has been some tweaking of the database to match their existing one and adding to the budget a liability insurance policy for ITN and MCAF. The grant total is over \$13k. We expect to hear something this week.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Lachowsky distributed a treasurer's report to the board in hardcopy.

Executive Director's Report: Circulated to board prior to meeting. Schroeder added ITN's 501c3 status has been confirmed by the IRS. He has raised \$300 for the GPS camera and has \$1100 left to raise.

Audience Comments:

Terry Michalski said June 8th is the next CG newcomer's welcome. He asked if ITN could attend to speak on responsible ATV use. He also reminded the board that he has an interesting slideshow from Antarctica that he would be willing to present to the Audubon Society. He will email to Andy for introduction to Claudia Anderson.

Paul Zimmer said he was interested in trails from a personal standpoint as a recreational user, but also from a medical & wellness standpoint as a doctor and advocate for healthier lifestyles in the community.

Board Member Comments:

Erin Whipple: Reminded board members to keep recruiting new members. Said the NRCS contract should be finalized shortly.

Pam Foreman applauded the CoastWalk event. She also has pictures of the Crab Fest parade float which she will email to Andy.

Rob Lachowsky: Inquired about signage at Sometimes Island. Whipple replied it is not up yet, but that Koniag will be actively enforcing the closure one they are posted.

Patrick Saltonstall: Asked about the status of the Safe Routes to Schools grant. This project is still in progress but has been overshadowed at the borough by the comp plan and now the trails planning process.

Erin Harrington: Applauded everyone at ITN for their participation in the CoastWalk event. She would like to know when P&RC meetings are held so she may attend. Thanked ITN board for their support of trails day initiatives and for contributing their ideas. Would like to discuss Americorps, Vista, and SCA internship/volunteer opportunities for next year. These organizations provide staff to non-profits with missions like ours. She envisioned the publication of a hiking guide with information gleaned from events like the Trails Day outings.

Upcoming Meetings: To be determined.

Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Also in Attendance:

Terry Michalski
Paul Zimmer