

## ISLAND TRAILS NETWORK

Minutes of Regular Meeting  
2/0708

**Call to order:** Whipple called meeting to order 1:15 PM 2/07/08 in the Chamber Conference Room.

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

**Approval of Agenda:** Addition of "Coast Guard 101" under new business. Addition of email from concerned member under communications. Saltonstall moved to approve the agenda as amended. Foreman seconded. Carried 4-0.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Deferred until March.

### Old Business:

**Trails Summit:** Schroeder reported that Sven Haakanson, Patrick Saltonstall (Shishaldin), and Byron McCord (Afognak) have agreed to present at the trails forum. Epic overland treks on Kodiak Island are still sought. Sharon Wielebski and Sam Rohrer also will be contacted. Foreman warned not to recruit too many speakers for one weekend. Additional speakers who are willing may be scheduled as a series of events throughout the year.

Glaspell pointed out that ARPA conference is that weekend and he won't be able to attend.

From Alaska Trails, E.D. Jillian Morrissey suggested three training modules (1) Trail Layout & Design (2) Best management practices for OHV trails and (3) Leadership & Volunteer management. Board opted to omit OHV trail management in favor of another module. Schroeder will contact Morrissey next week in Anchorage to discuss further and select from the other available modules & will pass this recommendation through Trails Summit Committee (below).

Schroeder stated he'd be busy with curriculum development and arranging guest speakers, and requested the establishment of a Trails Summit committee to plan community outreach and a fundraising event. Foreman offered to serve on committee and help with outreach, recommended Lachowsky for the fundraiser. Betsy Lund also will serve on the committee, and Erin Harrington will likely be involved, too. Hansen moved to establish. Foreman seconded. Carried 4-0.

Hansen suggested we add a segment on the Strategic Plan to the weekend's presentations. All agreed.

### **New Board Member**

Brian Glaspell was introduced to the rest of the board as an applicant to the ITN board. Foreman moved to appoint Glaspell to the vacant board seat for the duration of Paul Shaw's term. Hansen seconded. Carried 4-0.

### **North Star Safe Routes:**

Schroeder talked about trails developments in the North Star/Otmeloi neighborhood including \$1.3M for Lilly/Anton, \$3.1M for Otmeloi Paving, the Ft. Abercrombie trail to park HQ, and the \$2M in FY08 available through SR2S. North Star PTA will be pursuing this program and may hire a staff to do so. Schroeder was present at the Jan 24<sup>th</sup> meetings and offered ITN as a resource for any soft-tread trail solutions, or to provide additional neighborhood connections to these new trails. However a formal role in the process is unlikely.

Schroeder suggested that ITN follow the process, identify what partnerships were formed and how routes were chosen, then help to educate other schools (e.g. East Elementary and the Chichenof Trail) on how the North Star program was successful. Also, ITN should still pursue it's goal of ensuring school access from residential areas is incorporated into community planning, such as ensuring trails leading to schools are identified in the forthcoming Trails Plan.

However, two residents attending the meeting expressed their desire to see ITN stay out of the North Star Safe Routes issue, as this is the borough's responsibility.

### **New Business:**

#### **Meeting with City of Kodiak**

This meeting is tentatively slated for 1:00 PM Feb 21 with Foreman, Harrington, and Schroeder present. Discussion ensued as to what trails projects the city has in mind. Schroeder named possibilities as trail from Zharoff bridge down to Marine Way, trail connecting Rezanof to Mission at Potatopatch lake, the Near Island trail system and Russian Ridge.

With respect to the Zharoff trail, the city will come up with the money, but land ownership issues are where ITN can help. We should also be able to recommend what kind of trail, stairs would work there. The Board agreed

to see what Ms. Freed's suggestions were and to see what appealed to ITN. Schroeder will bring city maps marked up by Linda when she was in the Community Planning Department.

### **“Trails 101” training for Coast Guard**

Schroeder read from the email from CDR Scott Williams (XO of ISC Kodiak) to ITN and Terry Michalski suggesting a Feb 20<sup>th</sup> safety presentation at the CG safety stand-down day, support for ITN's idea of a “Trails 101” live presentation that could be taped, produced on DVD and mailed to Coast Guard families with orders to Kodiak as an educational tool. CDR Williams further inquired as to ITN's ability to monitor & enforce trail usage in the Buskin River valley near Lake Louise and offered to set up a meeting with Commanding Officer.

Board discussed Feb 20<sup>th</sup> request and deemed it too short notice, particularly with Whipple and Schroeder being in Anchorage at AFE next week. Glaspell remarked that a larger newcomer's presentation is given in the fall, and perhaps that would be a good time to test the “Trails 101” presentation on an audience. Board agreed, and suggested that a DVD could be produced from this fall presentation and mailed out next winter to those with orders to Kodiak in 2009. Michalski suggested that the CG Public Affairs office may be willing to do the production, and that Coast Guard funds might pay for the distribution of the DVD.

Several possible partners from ADF&G were named including Donn Tracy, Len Schwartz and Larry Van Daele. ADF&G has materials, occasional funding, and a similar desire to reach incoming residents to the community.

Schroeder will contact CDR Williams declining the Feb 20<sup>th</sup> opportunity because of the short notice, but requesting a meeting to more fully develop the Trails 101 curriculum for next year.

Michalski suggested that ITN doesn't want to become enforcers. Schroeder added that a trails assessment of the area, recommendations for improvements and signage, and ideas for educational programs are within our capacity.

### **Reports:**

**Executive Director's Report:** Paper copy distributed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Paper copy distributed. Schroeder pointed out duplicate payment of \$500 was made in December and that it was

reinstated this January in two payments of \$250. Treasurer Rob Lachowsky will return to Kodiak April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Communications:**

An email was circulated describing a past member's disappointment with ITN's emphasis on motorized trails in our first year. Michalski suggested modifying the mission statement, Foreman suggested creating a shorter summary of the strategic plan emphasizing a holistic view of all trails. Glaspell suggested that some members aren't interested in plans, only results, and that the best way to convince that segment of the membership that non-motorized trails are a high priority is to start improving them. This resonated with the board and it was decided to subtly indicate starting with the next newsletter an increased emphasis on non-motorized trails, starting with the 2008 field season. We will also disseminate information on our website along these lines.

**Board Member Comments:**

Hanson: None

Saltonstall: Welcomed Brian to the board.

Foreman: Welcomed Brian to the board.

Whipple: Welcomed Brian to the board.

**Upcoming Meetings:** Deferred, but Whipple suggested everyone look at the first week in March.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM.