

ISLAND TRAILS NETWORK

Minutes of Regular Meeting 2/16/11

Call to order: Slater called the meeting order 12:10 PM 2/16/11 in the KNWR Visitor's Center conference room.

Quorum: A quorum was established with Francis, Persselin, Tschersich, George, Saltonstall, Slater, Foreman present. Glaspell is present, but was excused from the beginning of the meeting.

Approval of Consent Agenda: Schroeder requested to add "Grand Slam Challenge" as an item of new business, and to place that agenda item first. He also requested to add "Resolution 11-02" to new business. Foreman moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. Francis seconded. Passed 7-0.

Audience Comments: None.

New Business:

Grand Slam Challenge: Schroeder explained this USFWS grant opportunity to connect people with the outdoors. (Glaspell enters) Funding is available throughout the Alaska Region to create new or supplement existing community events. Glaspell added that USFWS staff and facilities made available for use. Foreman expressed concern about scheduling too many in-town activities with crews afield. Schroeder recommended partnering on an event in July as a substitute for National Trails Day in June, which is an inconvenient weekend for ITN's schedule. Schroeder cited several candidate work sites and projects that could be undertaken in July. Persselin suggested including an invasive weeds component. Board directed Schroeder to collaborate with USFWS personnel on an event.

Unfinished Business:

Kodiak Outdoor Film Festival: Committee Chair Betsy Lund gave a summary of the written report, and update on committee activities of the last few days. Big Al's has agreed to donate pizzas and can bake them for a fee. Lund will send a .pdf of the poster to the Kodiak Arts Council. A list of potential donors to the silent auction was read aloud and assignments were for each board member to approach one local business. The list included 58 Degrees North (Francis), Orion's (Tschersich), Mack's (Foreman), Cy's (Lund), Java Flats (Slater), Metallic Marine Art (Slater), Andrew Airways (Schroeder), Island Air (Schroeder), Alaska Geographic (Glaspell), Kodiak Island Brewery (Persselin), Cactus Flats (Persselin), Warner Tire and Scuba Do (Schroeder). As in past years a Go-Pro helmet camera may be purchased for auction. Greg Sykes volunteered to donate a new Flip camera.

New Business:

Construction Loan: Schroeder produced a cash flow statement for the Anton Larsen Bay and Sunny Cove projects, and said the Finance committee asked him to give some more detailed information about the financial plan at this meeting. He gave a brief explanation of structure of the NRCS cost-share programs and the need for financing to undertake these projects. Schroeder listed some of the risks or variables of the plan including the requirement for self-certification, turnover of NRCS personnel, possible project and/or payment delays or refusal to pay against things that mitigate those risks such as insurance policies, performance bonds. Board agreed that some risks could not be avoided and thanked Schroeder for the update. No formal action was taken.

Regular Meeting Schedule: Schroeder said he has received requests from the board to consider scheduling a meeting at regular intervals. Schroeder suggested it would improve ITN's ability to secure a location, make it easier to committees to hold meetings and prepare reports, and make ITN more accessible to members who wish to attend meetings. He added that it might make getting a quorum and conducting business more difficult. Slater suggested the second Wednesday of each month, beginning with March 9th. Francis suggested the first Thursday of each month, 4:30 PM at Harborside Coffee for the finance committee meeting. Board agreed to these dates on a trial basis.

Online Collaboration for ITN Directors: Schroeder cited recent problems with Wiggio, the ITN Board's online collaboration tool, and introduced Wikispaces as an alternative. Persselin has had good luck with another site, called Base Camp. Schroeder will set one of the two up a dummy site and would like the board to test it for comparison to Wiggio. In the meantime, important documents will continue to come to board members by email.

Resolution 11-02: Schroeder circulated a draft resolution in support of SAFETEA-LU, the Recreational Trails Program and the Alaska Trails Initiative. These three programs are subject to cuts in the congressional budget, and national trails advocates are seeking letters and resolutions of support from trails non-profits in Alaska. Foreman moved to pass resolution 11-02 as introduced. Persselin seconded. Passed 8-0. (Tschersich departs)

Reports: Schroeder circulated a draft copy of an annual report. He summarized the report and asked for feedback and comments during or after the meeting. Glaspell applauded the brevity of the document. Slater suggested a listing of donors and sponsors.

Audience Comments: Lane Johnson has a proposal for a partnership project in conjunction with the Business Intelligence graduate degree he is pursuing. He offered to use Google Analytics to assess ITN's web traffic and provide insights on our online interactions with members and visitors to the site. He offered to discuss offline with Schroeder.

Director Comments: Slater said the application period is open for PickClickGive, a Foraker project that allows Alaska residents to make online donations to charity from their PFD. The application period is open through the end of March.

Foreman added that the SHARE program, the state's version of the Combined Federal Campaign, is also open and that Erin Harrington is working to get local nonprofits signed up.

Upcoming Meetings: March 9, 2011, 12:00 PM at the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge Visitor's Center.

Adjournment: Foreman moved to adjourn the meeting. Persselin seconded. Passed 7-0 Meeting adjourned at 1:45.

Also present: Roberta Astring, Betsy Lund, Greg Sykes, Lane Johnson