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## REGULAR MEETING AGENDA 12/02/24

1. CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL: David Story, Martha Story, Theo Lexmond, Janette Cadieux, Zach Andrews, Josiah Brown, Alex Altmann, Katie Feichtinger, Alison Neeld, Gary Galbraith, Sarah Shuh, Ben Romig, Colby Brendt, Kathy Lessard, Andy Milauskas
3. D Story gave overview that CLT is a committee of the CL Community Club. Our main CL Walkable Community effort is the CL Pathway Planning Project for what will become the town road (where we will be left with no means for alternative transportation outside of the narrow, deficient roadway.) We also maintain and groom snow trails in the winter (Russian River, Quartz Creek and Devil's Creek areas.) In addition we work on hiking trail maintenance where we are able, e.g. brushing work done on the start of Slaughter Gulch trail where it is on borough property.
4. REVIEW OF MINUTES:
  - a. Last meeting was: 04/12/24 See website News page.
  - b. Other meetings held since April, 2024:
    - i. Six meetings with Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA)
      1. They're helping us get our message developed for obtaining funding through a pitch deck and story map on our website.
    - ii. Two meetings with Alaska Department of Transportation
      1. Southcentral Regional Director, Sean Holland
      2. Regional Design Chief and two DOT Planners: Helped us review our previous TAP grant proposals and figure out how to improve them for subsequent submissions. Also looking to strengthen partnerships.
    - iii. One meeting with Kenai Peninsula Borough Safe Streets for All grant administrators: R&M Consultants, who supply design/engineering expertise, are administering the grant borough-wide. We gave insight to our community's needs regarding roadway safety obstacles and lack of effective alternative transportation.
5. TREASURERS REPORT
  - a. Please see the CLCC Treasurer's Report from 11/21/24 for details.
6. CORRESPONDENCE None other than emails with partners for various working reasons
7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Update on RTCA support:
  - i. What we have achieved.
    - 1. After information gathering, they are ready to begin production of our Story Map and Pitch Deck.
    - 2. D Story has a scheduled appointment with Kenaitze Tribe tomorrow to help re-introduce our project and look for ways to meet their goals for this area while moving ours forward as well.
  - ii. Needed:
    - 1. DS and JC are working on 1-2 sentences specifically related to the cultural and historical sensitivities of the CLTRPPP for the story map.
- b. Update on new CLT Website
  - i. Cooperlandingtrails.org has gone live and begins with Grooming Reports
  - ii. We continue to transfer information from our Walkcooperlanding.org website and it remains active.
  - iii. We can expand what the website does for us.
  - iv. How can we share what CL would like us to re. the trails that surround us?
  - v. We hope to help guide user behavior.
  - vi. Consolidation of messages for the community of trail users would be a future function for the new website.
- c. Update on RTP Grant
  - i. Snowmobile: Has been delivered and is at AK Mine/Dive being modified for grooming.
  - ii. Groomer and Roller: Built in November and should arrive here by end of year. Haven't gotten the shipping date yet.
- d. Town Road Pathway Project:
  - i. No update available for SS4A: We continue to wait for their further contact.
  - ii. DOT: See other meetings held above.
    - 1. Connection between DOT Planner, R. Marasignan and KPB Planning Department
    - 2. Connection between DOT Planner, R. Marasignan and Kenaitze Tribe
    - 3. Sean Holland expressed an interest in moving our project forward somehow. He has also promised to get ROW on a map where it is known. If/when the town road gets resurfaced we won't get things like extended culverts in anticipation of our pathway but we don't know what we will get so we will be ready to move when needed.
- e. Cooper Landing Senior Citizen Corporation Endowment Fund Application
  - i. Husquevarna 336FR gas brushcutter: \$670.00
  - ii. Dewalt 8" battery powered pruning saw: \$190.00
  - iii. Dewalt 20v batteries (2pk): \$180.00
  - iv. Total \$1040 requested
  - v. Word received this evening from A Nierenberg that we were awarded those dollars!

- f. Signage: Not obtained yet. Meant to identify what your CLT/Walkable Community efforts have achieved including:
  - i. The bike/ped path on the Kenai River bridge through a State Capital Improvement grant,
  - ii. The Snug Harbor separated pathway, paving, and roadside pathway,
  - iii. The support gathered for a separated pathway on the new alignment of the Sterling Hwy,
  - iv. The MP 45-47 separated pathway near the existing alignment
- g. Kenaitze Tribe contact made and a meeting with D Story will be held 12/03/24 to re-invigorate our joint efforts in this area.
- h. Snow Trails Update:
  - i. Russian River cannot be groomed this season but we anticipate that it will be opened for personal skiing and snowshoeing on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December.
  - ii. Quartz Creek Road beyond the power line to the Crescent Creek trailhead will be groomed with the new groomer and snow machine.
  - iii. Devil's Creek may have the old groomer but the snow machine will be at Storys' place for now. It will be ready on the trailer if someone has time to come get it and use it then return it to Storys'. We won't leave it at the snow trails due to possible theft.
  - iv. New highway? Can we groom it? A roller would be easy to pull with a 550cc machine or larger. That is being investigated.
  - v. We must sign the USFS volunteer forms. Be ready to do some grunt stuff before you're unleashed with a groomer. David will be providing training for any newbies before they are allowed to use heavy equipment (like the groomer) on USFS lands/trails. Call David if you haven't been previously trained.
  - vi. Please send a photo and estimated number of hours spent each time you engage in trail work, on snow trails or elsewhere. It helps us to match grant funds through volunteer hours.
  - vii. Be aware we must follow land managers' rules including training before grooming.
    - 1. Storys have a snow dog that they can use in places for walkers, bikers, etc. in small areas that we won't be grooming formally.
  - viii. Q: How many rollers do we have?
  - ix. A: Once we receive all of the newest gear, we will have 3 rollers, 3 drags, and 2 ginsu groomers, and 1 light-weight groomer. Drags and rollers cannot recondition the snow the way a big groomer can.
  - x. Q: What geographic area does the snow trail work include?
  - xi. A: East to West, from Devil's Creek snow trails to Russian River campground snow trails at this point.
  - xii. Keep track of all hours and take a pic wherever you work. David will keep track which are done on the managed snow trails vs if we get to work on the new road alignment or another unrecognized area. Keep track of any other season trail work that you do too please. Hours and a picture are very helpful.
  - xiii. Q: Is there enough snow right now?

- xiv. A: There's only about 18" at Devil's Creek ski area. It's been parallel tracked without packing and is just about ready for packing with the next snowfall. Quartz can be skied but you can punch through and hit rocks. It is still drive-able so that's a problem but S Holland was optimistic that we can close it to driving past the powerline in the future so for now, folks who want to... can drive it, any time they want. Russian Campground isn't open yet but is anticipated to open Dec 15<sup>th</sup> and depth of snow is not known. (NOTE: Change to warm weather since the meeting has resulted in a significant downgrading in the ski conditions.)
- xv. Thanks to Chris Degernes and Dan Osborn who spent hours preparing the trails south of Quartz Creek Rd on the single-track sections that we groom.
- xvi. Q: Do we interact with other trails groups?
- xvii. A: Yes, especially Seward Nordic Ski Club, and Tsalteshi Trails in particular. We'll try to post events that they have and vice versa.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### a. Trail Run 2025:

- i. We have not had a real trail run since the pandemic. We lost steam after that.
- ii. We'd like to return to this event. Typically it was held in the Spring, after the softball tournament and not conflicting with the Snailathon in early June, possibly the 8<sup>th</sup> in 2025.
- iii. Please let us know if you're willing to help with this in 2025 or if you have an idea for a different event. AN, JJ, CB MS, TL and others indicated they could help.
- iv. New alignment of the Sterling Hwy finish date is delayed so we have a few years. The new pathway that will exist between Quartz Creek and Kenai Lake Lodge will replace our old Safety Path in that section. Running the trail event through there brings attention to the area as a place we travel and will need to negotiate in the future.
- v. We need to get the event on the Runner's Calendar soon.
- vi. Janette will contact Karl Romig about the Runner's calendar and his help organizing.

### b. No other new business discussed

## 9. INFORMATION and ANNOUNCEMENTS none offered

## 10. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS none made

## 11. SELECT NEW MEETING DATE: January after the 9<sup>th</sup> but not much later, 2025.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT: 7:00 p.m.