

April 4, 2013, 5:30 p.m.

Minutes

Kachemak Drive Path Committee

Attending: Dave Brann, Bumppo Bremicker (chair), Lindianne Sarno (recording), Beth Cumming, Kevin Walker (visitor/advisor), Larry Slone (visitor from Planning Commission). Lynn Burt is still Outside.

Bumppo calls the meeting to order.

Beth moves to add Bonfire plans to the agenda as item C under new business. Dave moves and Beth seconds approve agenda.

Dave moves and Beth seconds approve minutes. No objections, motion passes.

**Public comments on matters on agenda.**

Kevin Walker – suggests people ask the Enstar office about a bike path from Kenai to Homer along with the line. Kevin will mention this to the bike club too. The line is coming quickly.

Bumppo: put this on the agenda for the next meeting about co-ordinating bike path with Enstar. Dave suggests putting the Kachemak Drive Path on the Parks & Recreation Commission agenda, related to the idea of using the gas pipeline corridor as a bike trail.

Beth raises whether gas line is in the DOT right of way. Dave says it is. Beth says that would take it into DOT, and out of what we had discussed. We have discussed keeping trail out of state right of way and having it be owned by the city. Beth is pointing that out. Dave acknowledges he has tried to keep the path out of the DOT right of way.

Bumppo points out the water sewer line was cleared to 50 or 60 feet from the middle of the road. Beth thinks that's a prescriptive or presumptive right of way. Bumppo is curious how that is determined. Larry Herndon did the clearing, but might not know why. Larry Slone says that Planning would know that.

**Reconsideration.**

Beth made notice of reconsideration within 48 hours. Reconsideration requires us to vote on original motion. Beth reads motion and moves for reconsideration of the motion.

Bumppo: This motion is on the floor. Open for discussion. Beth?

Beth: Page 8 gives my reasons for reconsidering. Is there written authority to have made the Mud Bay Trail into a Level One or Two Trail? This has cost the City almost no money. Upgrading would cost hundreds of thousands possibly.

Dave: There is no written authorization and talked to Walt and Carey about next step in getting it approved. Walt said get it into the non-motorized trails plan. Two year process. Walt and Carey thought we could make an amendment to the non-motorized trails plan to by-pass that process. Carey put a hold on surveying until there is clear understanding of what should be surveyed. Renee asked Carey to tell engineer not to work on the plan until the reconsideration is handled. Walt suggested this can be an amendment to motorized trail plan, but Julie Engebretsen says, to add Mud Bay Trail to non-motorized trail plan, has to go through the planning process with public hearings.

We should update non-motorized trail plan because there are other trails to update, like the Spit Trail. If we as a commission make a list of all the trails that should be included, that will go through the process. Ideally the plan should be updated, update with what has happened, project forward with what is likely to happen.

There is a laydown from Julie Engebretsen on this subject.

Beth: Suggests we find out first few hundred feet, take out wording Mud Bay Trail from first few hundred feet. Call it the proposed Kachemak Drive Bicycle Trail.

I suggested a year ago, for the first few hundred feet from the end of the Spit Trail, I would like to see the survey that shows where City land ends and DOT land begins. (1) What is dividing line between DOT and City land?

Larry: by renaming it are you taking it out of planning and putting it into HART?

Beth: Call it a proposed bicycle trail. This removes it from having to go through the whole process. I wanted in those first few hundred feet before the Y, I wanted to suggest that we find out the cost of representative parts of those first few hundred feet, before you get to the Y, because from the Spit to the Y, there are three kinds of construction, representing everything that comes later. (1) walkway through 26 and 23 foot high tide, (2) at high points going through trees, shoveling by hand or taking equipment and leveling two or three places that go through the trees, level humps and fill in low places (3) posts and boards, retaining wall. All three types of construction are there that would come later. We would ask for the City for representative costs. We all agree we are going to start out on the beach.

Kevin: Beth is saying, start at the spit, go to the Y, that way we'll run into 3 types of trail construction, do a good job, give us a good dollars per per foot on each type of trail construction.

Beth: where you go uphill slightly 200' from Y, that might need a retaining wall. It's muddy right now in initial area, then high spot, then trail drops down into a very wet area, the surveying that was done shows that the trail will not go into that wet land, but will stay high. The only way that can be done is a retaining wall. Keep the bicycle trail high.

Bumppo: Why focus on the name change?

Dave: Whatever we call it, Kachemak Drive Path, then Mud Bay Trail, then to separate the two. Every decision has confused the issue. I would like to see from end of the Spit Trail, the engineers said the hill is too steep, so let's focus on the lower trail to the airport road. There are places where boardwalk will work. Treated plank boardwalk costs less than steel and treated plank, volunteers could build. I don't think we need heavy equipment there, fill from end of Spit Trail to where first airport light is, that could require lots of fill. The hills can be smoothed out by hand. Geo-block can fill over typar fabric. Hard to come up with a cost, but cost can be way less than what we imagine.

Bumppo: Julie thought we had to go through public hearing.

Dave: We make proposal to Commission, commission sends resolution to city council, ask for a stage one of the construction to get the process going.

- (1) Go to City Manager for permission to build trail.
- (2) Go to the City Council.

Dave: I would like to work on it with volunteers for no cost with permission from the City.

Lindianne: I wanted to show we are flexible. We are not stuck on the steep hill.

Dave: If we go to Walt with two names, will confuse the issue. Signs have been there for a year saying Mud Bay Trail. Walt mentioned to City Council looks like a refocus along the Bay.

Dave: We need written permission from the City to start work parties. We can make huge progress once we have permission from the city. We can do this with shovel and volunteers.

Bumppo: First section along mud flats will require fill.

Beth: I had a brief conversation with Carey before last meeting. He had walked from Spit Trail to Beach Access road with Rick Nelson, engineer. What were engineer's comments? The decision was made by Carey, not by the engineer.

Kevin: Julie says what level do we want to do now without asking the city for funding?

Dave: Level three is 4" of fill over geo-textile fabric, lay on gravel, compact it, you have a 3' to 5' wide trail.

Dave: Move to ask City Manager for permission to build the trail. Amend the Motion.

**Motion.**

The Kachemak Drive Path Committee supports upgrading the Mud Bay Trail to level three trail specifications. This compacted gravel trail will connect the Spit Trail to the Beach Access Road. This committee supports volunteer involvement in constructing and maintaining this trail to the extent possible, and requests written permission from the City Manager to begin volunteer construction.

Vote on amendment: Dave, Lindianne and Bumppo voted yes, Beth voted no.

Dave: We will do what we can do for no money this summer.

Larry: You'd like to get going to do what you can initially. Suggest compromise, to revisit motion. Get going on initial phases using volunteer labor.

Dave: We need written permission from City Manager. The second part is, for funding, when you have some idea what is needed.

All we need is permission from Walt. Or he'll send us to City Council.

Kevin: Beth is trying to zero in the \$20,000, find out how much is left. Because we don't know how much it will cost, Beth is trying to get some hard numbers on paper.

Bumppo: They started the survey, Carey said, don't go up the hill, they surveyed along the beach. Now we are saying that's fine.

Beth: I will propose another motion.

**Bumppo: Call for a vote on the motion as amended. Dave, Lindianne and Bumppo yes, Beth no. The motion passes.**

Beth moves that we recommend to the City Council that the City spend up to \$30,000 if necessary to insure that the survey that has been done determines boundary between City and DOT land, and that they provide the funds to do an engineering to determine a cost estimate for the first approximately 1200 feet, which contains representative kinds of potential construction, (1) leveling and filling, (2) retaining wall, (3) boardwalk.

No second to motion.

Bumppo: Wait and get started with volunteer labor this summer, and get specifics of what will be needed.

Dave: wait and find out what has been done. Don't want to ask City for any more money.

Lindianne: As soon as we have permission for volunteer labor we can get data to engineering.

Dave: Focus on Mud Bay Trail. We don't know what has been spent. I would like a report on what's been done, what's been spent.

Bumppo: Next on agenda?

Dave: Been working on bike sign. Julie got it with Dottie from Walt and Carey. Request to encroach on DOT ROW, 24 x 24 diamonds with bike on it. City had to send in application. Went out, took pictures, Dottie used aerial photos, Kevin and I did measurements, Dottie put together a packet, sent it to DOT, here is some of the info related to that. Public works can do it. Signs, there has been discussion of cost, I'll chase the money, all we need is permission to do it. Give me the cost for the sign, post, put in hardware, anchor. We cut it down to three signs, (1) base of hill, (2) end of straight stretch, (3) K Drive going west before curves begin.

\$180 x 3, bike club will commit to one, I will buy one, I will chase the money for the third. Bumppo and Lindianne will contribute to cost of third sign.

Yellow cautionary sign with black bicycle on it.

Bumppo: thank you for all the work you have done on this.

Beth: Bonfire, strong southwest winds in summer, and I don't think we should have it. The last staff person I talked to, we decided it would be better not to do it as a committee, just a group of people. I will talk to Walt Wrede. I talked to lady in charge of Shorebird Festival. She said, if I can find a corner, I will just call people's attention to a sign: check out the new Mud Bay Trail because it is an outstanding trail for shorebirders. Is that OK?

Discussion of where the signs should go.

Dave: In this case, if you have to cut trees, better to move it. Ideally, outside of DOT right of way.

Bumppo: what's next? Carey is not here, no new business.

### **Comments of the audience?**

Larry: Your amendment to the motion asking for permission was a good move. Show you are putting out some effort yourselves, develop body of data, show where additional development might be needed, that will reflect favorably to city council and city manager.

With respect to getting city involved with first 1200 feet of Mud Bay, three types of construction, city may not see those three modes would be necessary, may not compare at all to rest of construction, I don't know that would have carried much weight with city.

I agree with modifying motion.

Kevin: There aren't three typical sections. May be hundreds. There is a solution for everything, can go from \$0 to millions. Individualized solutions, frozen culverts in this town. I don't want to be part of that. Design trail for water flow. 3 feet diameter culvert doesn't freeze solid, 2 feet culvert does freeze solid.

Bumppo: appreciate your expertise.

**Comments of committee:**

Dave: Important we share our opinions. It was a good meeting, everybody keeps plugging away. It will happen. One step at a time. I'm looking forward to getting Walt's input.

Lindianne: I'm looking forward too. Phone tree to let us know when. Thank you to Dave, Larry, Kevin. Beth = D8 cat!

Dave: three or four hour session, we can get a lot done. The call will go out.

Beth: I and Deb Lowney have thought that if K Hornaday Park road is worked on there will be fill from there. Could use it on K Drive path? My vote against the amendment, I have concerns, but I totally support working on areas of trail that can be done by hand, I won't be there to help.

Bumppo: Good meeting, sorry if I don't know how to do reconsideration. I hope no hard feelings. What we have to do to get through.

Beth: The Mud Bay Trail is a side issue. Our task is a K Drive Bicycle Trail. Next time can we walk along the proposed K Drive Trail.

Bumppo: We can call a meeting, start the meeting, and go look at the trail. Let's recommend, if the weather is appropriate, we'll meet here, and then go there. May 2.