

Conservation Lands Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes November 22, 2024 - Approved

1. Meeting convened about 4:04 pm with Mike Taylor, Chair; John Barry; Susan Warner; and Colleen Stansbury attending. Committee Members Kathy Streveler, and Larry Landry and our non-member-volunteer Secretary Shelley Owens were unable to attend.
2. Approval of Minutes for October 25, 2024. Minutes were reviewed. Susan moved and Colleen seconded for approval, and they were approved by unanimous consent. Mike will email out the approved minutes to the City Clerk.
3. Reports from committee members on assigned tasks and discussion.
 - a. Map development and descriptions of Gustavus conservation lands. John Barry is working on these lands using Alaska Mapper. He will have a new report for the next meeting as he is travelling this month.
 - b. TNC contacts and MOU consideration, Colleen Stansbury and Kathy Streveler will work together beginning in early December when both are back in Gustavus. Initial work is to contact TNC and establish a working relationship. We agreed this should be a priority for the coming weeks after the Beach Meadows work with SEALT is underway.
 - c. Southeast Alaska Lands Trust (SEALT) contact and conservation lease proposal for Beach Meadows tracts. Susan Warner is our point of contact with SEALT. Susan reported on development of the project to acquire a conservation lease for up to two years initially for the DeBoer Beach Meadows tracts (AKA Former Golf Course). Since the last meeting Susan has worked with Margaret Custer of SEALT to negotiate terms with the DeBoer family representative, Ben DeBoer. With input from Margaret Custer, Susan developed an application for an Endowment Fund grant, which she submitted before the October 31 deadline. She presented on the grant application with the Endowment Fund Council working group meeting earlier this week to make the case for funding.

Mike and Susan prepared a Project Scoping Document for the Gustavus Natural Lands Leasing Project, at the request of the City Administrator. Susan read portions of the scoping document and summarized the project. She then moved and John seconded to approve the scoping document for submission to the City Council for approval on the December Council agenda. The motion passed by unanimous consent. The \$30k budget anticipates \$25k from an Endowment Fund grant and \$5k to be donated by individuals.

Susan reported that discussions with the DeBoer family indicate a very positive response to the lease proposal. She anticipates this project will consume considerable time after funding and she will need some committee member help for implementation.
4. Adjustments and updates to assigned tasks (confirmation). Assigned tasks will remain as previously outlined and assigned.
5. Next meeting: The committee plans to meet next in January after the holidays.
6. Adjournment: 4:30 pm