

FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH TRAILS ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES
February 24, 2021

A regular meeting of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Health & Social Services Commission was held via Zoom from the Mona Lisa Drexler Assembly Chambers, Juanita Helms Administration Center, 907 Terminal Street, Fairbanks, Alaska. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Carol Kaynor Chair.

A. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Seth Adams	Helyn Lefgren
John Morack	Geoffrey Orth
Leslie Kitchin	Carol Kaynor
Richard Shideler	Maxwell Plichta
Michael Schmetzer	Brian Accola

MEMBERS ABSENT (note if excused):

OTHERS PRESENT: Bryant Wright, Administrator
Alexis Fackeldey, Recording Clerk
Sharon Wittenkeller, Zoom Technician
Taryn Oleson, Contractor
Jon Underwood, Contractor

B. MESSAGES

1. Communications to the Trails Advisory Commission

Mr. Wright reminded commissioners about the work session happening after the meeting.

2. Citizen's Comments – limited to three (3) minutes

- a. Agenda items not scheduled for public hearing
- b. Items other than those appearing on the agenda

Don Duncan stated that multi-purpose use should be a general rule rather than the exception. He also spoke against public funds being used to make trails use exclusive. He spoke in favor of motorized use of the trails.

Don Pendegrast spoke in favor of water trails.

Tupper Becker said he wished to see trail development continue on Ester Dome. He also spoke against a "one trail fits all" approach.

Dana Brennan advocated in favor of user group specific trails.

John Schauer stated that the mapping would be a very valuable resource. He also spoke in favor of many different kinds of trails including non-motorized trails and that e-mountain bikes should be classified as non-motorized as they are in Anchorage.

Donald Hertzberg spoke in favor of motorized trail use including off-highway vehicles.

Andrew Pagle advocated for converting abandoned roadways into trails.

Jennifer Reed asked for advisement from the commissioners regarding conflicts between trail users and hunters. Mr. Wright advised her to contact the state troopers in the interest of public safety.

Carl Eirhart spoke in advocacy of educating the public regarding trail use.

Bob Gillis spoke in favor of multi-use trails.

Maggie Demers commented on the increase in use of trails and its impact on the traffic and parking situation in her neighborhood.

Gail Davidson spoke on the ruts created by four wheelers and the effect it has on the trails.

3. Disclosure & Statement of Conflict of Interest
None

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda and consent agenda including the amended minutes made by **Commissioner Kitchin** and seconded by **Commissioner Shideler**. Carried without objection or roll call vote.

D. MINUTES

Motion to amend the minutes to state "one of the tools" made by **Commissioner Kaynor** and seconded by **Commissioner Lefgren**. Carried without objection or roll call vote.

Amended Minutes from February 8, 2021.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Election of TAC officers for 2021

Commissioner Kitchin was nominated by **Commissioner Shideler**, but she did not accept the nomination.

Motion to unanimously elect **Commissioner Kaynor** as the Chair of the Trails Advisory Commission made by **Commissioner Morack** and seconded by **Commissioner Lefgren**. Carried without objection or roll call vote.

Commissioner Morack nominated **Commissioner Shideler** for the Vice-Chair position.

Commissioner Kaynor nominated **Commissioner Kitchin** and **Commissioner Shideler** stepped out of the running.

Motion to unanimously elect **Commissioner Kitchin** as Vice-Chair made by **Commissioner Morack** and **Commissioner Shideler** seconded. Carried without objection or roll call vote.

F. EXCUSE FUTURE ABSENCES

None

G. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Morack invited public comment and stated there was an opening on the commission.

Commissioner Shideler spoke positively of the Trails challenge and those participating in it.

Communications to the Trails Advisory Commission

Mr. Bryant stated the next meeting scheduled is on March 1, 2021.

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

WORK SESSION

Immediately following the regular agenda, the FNSB Trails Advisory Commission will have a work session with R&M Consultants regarding trail issue identification for trail systems west and north of Steese Highway. Trail issue identification may include needs, ideas and other pertinent issues. The community is invited to participate in this work session as part of the process to update the Trail Plan.