

GREATER WHITTIER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FEBRUARY 10, 2016

ATTENDING: Lisa Kruse, Phillips; Stephanie Carlson, State of AK-Ferry; Kelly Bender, Lazy Otter; Sue Cogswell, Prince William Sound Development, Gordon Burton, DOT; Jody Mason, Alaskan 4 Star Charters; Bill Rome, Willard Island Video; Alesia and Dan Stein, Inn at Whittier; Andy Dennis, Harbor Master; Mark Robinson-Wilson, HAP AK-Yukon; Dave Goldstein, PWS Eco-Charters; Jim Barnett, Passage Canal Development – Parking and Camping; Gwen Granger, Passage Canal Development – Parking and Camping; Rebecca Langton, Fee's Custom Seafoods.

CALL TO ORDER: 12:10. Minutes accepted – Lisa, Jody – second.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: From Dan Blair – Conversations have started on the marijuana issue. City of Whittier has appointed the City Council as the authority. Feds not looking positively due to most of the land being federal/RR, not privately owned. Store front? Should Chamber make a resolution?

Public Works buildings are under way. Also, the Comprehensive Plan is being worked on.

TREASURERS REPORT: The bill has come in from the printers for the maps. Still waiting on 2 invoices to be paid.

Dave – Derby Checking – Why are monies still separate? Kelly – Keeping monies in the account to show activity and to keep it distinctly derby. Hopefully, one day the derby will be active again. Can also be used for projects. ei, fisheries project, etc. Alesia accepted treasurers' report, Lisa second.

HARBOR MASTERS REPORT: License plate scanner will be active. Same system will be active for the boat launch. Tenant parking signs will be going in. Paint in the Triangle will be updated. Letter has been requested for the Sportsman Show about what's happening in the harbor this summer.

What is a 'year' on a parking pass?

Are there any plans to update signage at Whittier Creek? ie. Parking, etc.

OLD NEWS

Map - Maps are being picked up this week and being dropped at the tunnel and the Public Works Building. Lisa – Log/sign out sheet for cases?

Sportsman Show – The show at the Sullivan Arena will be from March 31 – April 3. To sign up for a slot, please email Rebecca at jars_1990@yahoo.com or text at 907/317-8210.

NEW BUSINESS

Management Plan for the Forest Service is coming up. This could heavily impact the areas in Prince William Sound. This is open for public comment until 2/19/16. Right now there are no permanent structures/mining/lumber/motorized vehicles allowed in these areas and this designation could be taken away. Dave asked for a resolution to be proposed by the Chamber to ask to extend the public comment period. Jody second, ALL were in favor. Kelly will be composing.

Sue – Meetings are coming up for comprehensive energy development strategies in April. Dates to come.

Ferry – Only every 10 days will there be 2 ferries. May – no sailings on Saturdays. Kennecott will be stopping in Sept. instead of Oct. Sailings to Valdez will be very limited, once weekly. Brochure racks are available at the terminal.

Inn – Will open April 14th for SRVS

Trying to build visitor packages with local and surrounding businesses. Please contact Alesia for suggestions.

Phillips – Sunset Glacier Cruise to Blackstone Bay will be offered this summer.

Lazy Otter – Custom sightseeing trips will begin February 20th.

Earthquake – there has been some damage, possible land settling caused by the earthquake. There is an engineer in Whittier checking on the situation.

Next meeting will be April 13th at Lonestar at noon.