



Kluane National Park Management Board
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Meeting Minutes 06-18
June 16, 2018
Kluane National Park Management Board Office
10:30 am

1. Call to Order 10:38 a.m.

In Attendance – Robin Chambers - Chair, Michael Beattie, Gerald Dickson, Michael Riseborough, Elsabe Kloppers, Barb Joe, Linaya Workman - Park Site Manager, Sylvie Gewehr – Administrator.

2. Review and approve draft Agenda 06-18

Motion 01-06-18: Elsabe K. motions to adopt the agenda as presented. Gerald D. seconds the motion. Approved unanimously.

3. Review and approve draft Minutes 05-18

Motion 02-06-18: Barb J. motions to accept Minutes 04-18 with correction of the typo identified in section 7.1. Michael R. seconds the motion. Approved unanimously.

4. Presentation on Law Enforcement in KNP&R, Birch Howard, PCA

4.1. KNP&R Boundary Changes

Administrative Boundary Changes

The Park's boundaries were changed with the Land Claim Agreements, which needs to be reflected in the National Parks Act. Basically, this is a matter of "cleaning up" the legislative documents to match settlement land boundaries.

Haines Road Additions

Currently, the park boundary is set back from the highway right-of-way by 1,000 ft. The boundary will be moved to the highway right-of-way and the 1,000 ft. setback strip will become part of the park, except for private land and settlement land. This means an addition of 18 km² to the park. This change has been planned for a long time (Yukon Government transferred the land to the Government of Canada in 2005 and the transfer was accepted by Canada in 2010) and parks is already administering this land, but it has no enforcement power until the boundary is changed.

Both the administrative changes and the Haines Road additions are being prepared to be brought to cabinet, hopefully, before the next election.

Alaska Highway Additions

The land along Kluane Lake, where the park boundary is set back 1,000 ft. from the highway right-of-way would be added to the park.

Q: Can the boundary in this area be fluid moving as Kluane Lake fills up with silt/dries up?

A: The land on the lake side of the highway is Yukon jurisdiction, nothing can be done about it.

Currently this land is managed by Yukon Government and Parks Canada will need to consult with CAFN, KFN and WRFN on this boundary change. The process is still in its early stages (YG is still consulting with WRFN).

There is a mining claim in the area, but a moratorium on staking of new claims as been put in place.

Q: What is required from the Board on these boundary changes?

A: The Board may make a recommendation to the Minister on these changes.

4.2. CO cross appointment

The cross appointment of Yukon Conservation Officers under National Parks Act, would allow COs to assist with law enforcement in national parks in the Yukon. It would mean:

- More effective resource protection;
- The removal of jurisdictional barriers; and
- The possibility for partnering on patrols.

Park Wardens would still be the lead on enforcement in national parks and COs would have to go through training before being appointed. The COs would not be the ones laying charges and handling the paperwork, this cross appointment would simply give them the authority to intervene if they were to witness an offense (e.g. an individual poaching in the park could be stopped and interrogated by a CO, who would also have the authority to seize the animal and gather evidence, but after the initial intervention, the CO would pass everything on to the Park Wardens).

The COs will be trained in Yukon First Nations' and Inuvialuit Harvesting Rights, Cooperative Management Agreements, Parks Canada mandate and policies, and the National Parks Act. The training will be formatted to meet partners' concerns as well.

The agreement would be in place for 5 years, after which it would be reviewed. The next step is for parks to complete the consultations with all partners (only WRFN and CAFN remain to be consulted). If everyone agrees, a MOU will be signed with Yukon Government in which the limitations for the cross appointment will be stipulated. The MOU would be reviewed by all partners, and once it is approved by all, the COs will be trained and appointed.

At this stage of the process, a letter of support from the Board would be required (if the Board is in support of the project). This letter could express concerns and reservations.

Concerns the Board has:

- That COs would end up taking over for Park Wardens; and
- That this adds another layer of law enforcement in the parks, which also tends to be more forceful than that of Park Wardens.

Action Item 01-06-18: The Board members will discuss the CO cross appointment question and will prepare a letter of support, if they decide to be in support, to send to Birch Howard by the time he has completed his consultation with the First Nation partners.

5. Old Business

5.1. Action Log Review

Motion 03-06-18: Michael R. motions to accept the action log as presented. Barb J. seconds the motion. Approved unanimously.

5.2. Chair's Report

Nothing to report.

5.3. Site Manager's Report

The Park is very busy with the oTENTiks. They are opening on June 29th and are already booked for the first night. Support infrastructure had to be installed (service road, outhouses, etc.) and trails had to be developed.

There still are a lot of pay issues affecting staff morale.

Visitor Experience is understaffed by 2 people.

Resource Conservation is doing a lot of staff training.

Linaya met with CAFN Chief & Council to discuss the management planning process and boundary changes.

The CAFN flag will be raised on June 20th at noon in front of the Parks admin building.

Linaya also met with KFN Chief & Council to discuss the management planning process and the trapping request.

Linaya has been unable to receive a response from WRFN regarding a meeting date to discuss the management planning process, but will continue to try.

Q: Are there any future management planning meeting dates?

A: Not yet. First there needs to be a zoning meeting. The Board should have a representative on this meeting.

5.4. Trapping Request

The KFN Final Agreement stipulates that KFN is responsible for administering the trapping in the park (licensing etc.). KFN will have to develop their own trapping administration program and parks will assist.

There are, however, issues with identifying the legislation that applies to trapping in the park (the National Parks Act does not allow for trapping in national parks and the Yukon Government legislation does not apply to federal land). KFN could look into developing their own legislation to govern their trapping activity in the park. Linaya will further pursue this question, but in the meantime KFN can start developing their program.

The PCA legal department has not returned with an opinion yet. KFN has the legal right to commercially trap in KNP&R, but the Board has to recommend in which areas trapping can or cannot occur. KFN has the right to administer the trapping and the Board may also make recommendations on quotas and management of furbearers (see KFN FA Ch. 10 Schedule C Sec 5).

6. Finance and Administration

6.1. 2018-19 Financials Review

The reference documents showing the Board is entitled to a 15% carry over from one fiscal year to another have been found and the 15% carry over has been applied to the 2018-2019 budget. This means an increase of about \$3,000 to the Q2 funding request.

Motion 04-06-18: Barb J. motions to approve the May 2018 financials as reported, including the revised 2018-2019 Budget. Michael B. seconds the motion. Approved unanimously.

Action Item 02-06-18: The Administrator will prepare the financial report for Q1 and prepare the funding request for Q2.

6.2. Admin update

The Administrator proposes that the Board issue a newsletter to be mailed out to Haines Junction, Destruction Bay, Burwash Landing and Beaver Creek. The newsletter drafts will be sent out to all Board members for review before print. KNP&R could have some content in the newsletter as well.

Content needs to be developed for KNPMB webpage on the KNP&R website. The Administrator can put everything together, but the Board members will have to provide the contents about themselves.

Action Item 03-06-18: The Board members will prepare a brief bio about themselves and an answer to the question “What do you like about KNP&R?” and give these texts and a photography of themselves to the Administrator by the next meeting.

The Board should have a meeting in Burwash Landing before the end of the year. The September meeting could be a good time.

Action Item 04-06-18: The Administrator will contact KFN to find out if the Board can hold a meeting in Burwash Landing on September 15th.

7. New Business

7.1. Elder’s Visioning Workshop Report

About 10 elders of each First Nation (CAFN & KFN) attended the visioning workshop. Many concerns, ideas and questions were brought up (see summary report).

One concern that was brought up was the lack of access to the park. This could be improved by creating a small guardian program (similar to the Watchmen program in Gwaii Haanas). It could be a small program at first and become a success to build bigger programs on.

Having First Nations’ crests on parks uniforms is another small program to consider.

And elders could be involved in the management planning meetings.

7.2. KFN Bighorn Culture Camp

KFN would like to organize another Bighorn Culture Camp this year. The date has not been determined yet, but the end of July and early August are being considered. Board members could attend.

8. Updates or Additions

Gerald D. flew to Sockeye Lake on May 31st to do some Ecological Integrity Monitoring with parks staff. It was a good experience to see the work that is being done in the park and to discover this part of the park.

9. Next Regular Meeting Date – Tuesday July 17 at 5:30 p.m., KNPMB Office

10. Adjournment at 2:50 p.m.

Chair or Vice-Chair

Administrator