

# MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH PARKS, RECREATION, AND TRAILS ADVISORY BOARD

**Chairperson** – James Jones – At Large 1  
**Vice Chair** – Ruth Wood - District 7  
Vacant – District 1  
Steve Menard – At Large 2

Kimberly Waychoff - District 3  
Vacant – District 4  
Michael Rovito – District 2  
Harry Hillman – At Large 4

Jill Martinson - District 5  
Maksim Revutskiy – District 6  
Kenni Psenak – At Large 3

## MEETING MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Lower Level Conference Room**  
**And Teams**

**Meeting ID: 235 322 904 252**  
**Passcode: Gg7dK2qm**

**March 24, 2025**

- I. CALL TO ORDER
  - A. Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm
- II. ROLL CALL – DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
  - A. Present: James Jones, Ruth Wood, Steve Menard, Kimberly Waychoff, Michael Rovito, Harry Hillman, Kenni Psenak
  - B. Absent: Jill Martinson, Maksim Revutskiy
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  - A. Mr. Hillman moved to approve, unanimous consent
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
  - A. Pledge was conducted
- V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING
  - A. FEBRUARY 24, 2025 – Ms. Wood moved to approve, unanimous consent
- VI. BOROUGH STAFF REPORT
  - A. Hugh Leslie, Recreation & Library Services Manager – Mr. Leslie introduced new board member, Steve Menard. Informed the board that we will be hiring about 20 summer crew for trails & parks. Received the trail dozer after a long wait. Jim Creek cleanup is May 10, dumpsters and bags are ordered. Mat River Park will open on May 23 for camping, reservations only via Campspot. Recapped FinnlySport for lesson registrations. Camp host for Talkeetna River Campground has been identified, still need camp host for Mat River Park.
- VII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD / AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – 3 minutes per person
  - A. Dewey Bitler – Mr. Bitler confirmed that Mr. Leslie received the trail information emailed to him.
- VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - A. Matanuska Valley Moose Range at Jonesville PUA
    - i. No report – Community Development went to 2 other municipality managed ranges to ask about lead abatement, accident rates, costs, design and rules.

B. Code of Ordinances for Parks and Recreation

- i. No report – Still being reviewed by Law Dept.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. None

X. VOLUNTEER NOMINATIONS

- A. None

XI. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. None

XII. MEMBER COMMENTS

- A. James Jones – Mr. Jones let the board know he'll be attending the next few meetings online as he'll be out of town. He took a walk out at Scout Ridge.
- B. Ruth Wood – Ms. Wood said the Talkeetna trails looked pretty good with the snow they've gotten.
- C. Steve Menard – Mr. Menard gave some background of his parks & rec activities and priorities.
- D. Kimberly Waychoff – Ms. Waychoff asked about trapping on Borough trails and what rules are in place. Staff will provide the legislation regarding this.
- E. Michael Rovito – Mr. Rovito will also be attending the meetings remotely for the next few months due to work. Haven't used any trails recently.
- F. Harry Hillman – Mr. Hillman asked about the Alaska Long Trail and what the Borough's position was. Staff will provide the legislation regarding this.
- G. Kenni Psenak – Ms. Psenak also has had limited trail usage due to the ground softening. Went to an operations meeting for all the wildfire agencies, they have moved the start of wildfire season to March 17. Everyone needs burn permits.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

APRIL 28, 2025

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Mr. Hillman moved to adjourn, unanimous consent. Adjourned at 6:52 pm

x Ruth Wood x 4/23/25  
Ruth Wood - Vice Chair date

Attest:

x Barbara Thomas x 4/23/25  
Barbara Thomas - Staff Support