

**Steering Committee Meeting**

Alaska Department of Fish & Game, Suite 4

1800 Glenn Highway, Palmer

**Tuesday, September 12, 2017 1:30 – 4 pm**

Call in # (907) 746-6347 ← ADFG conference room

**Notes**

**Facilitator:** Jim

**Notetaker:** Brianne

**Committee Members Present:**

In-person

Jim DePasquale  
Amy O'Connor  
Brianne Blackburn  
Marc Lamoreaux

Phone

Christy Cincotta  
Jessica Speed  
Arni Thompson  
Libby Benolkin (for Trent Liebich)  
Mike Daigneault  
Gillian O'Doherty  
Erika Ammann

**Call to order** at 1:31.

**Community Candidate Forum for Municipal Elections (Amy)**

- Sponsored by: Mat-Su Salmon Partnership, Wasilla Public Library, AK Center
- Sept 28<sup>th</sup>-5:30-7pm at Wasilla Palmer
- Two Palmer City Council candidates and two Assembly Candidates (Ted Leonard and Patricia Hogan) confirmed with a goal of 6 candidates for the forum. Still looking for facilitator for meeting-would be great to have someone from the Partnership. If anyone is interested contact Amy. Collecting questions from the public, which will be prescreened and grouped by theme and region as appropriate. Questions can be sent via Facebook, email, mail etc.

**HB 199 (Amy)**

- The Alaska Center putting forward ballot initiative to update Title 16-rejected today by Lieutenant governor because it is allocation related which can only be done by legislator.
- It would be beneficial to encourage presentations at the symposium that help people understand current habitat regulations, with a distinction drawn between informing people and not taking a stance on the bill.
- Louise Stutes – interested in sponsoring HB199 Town Hall @ LIO Nov 9<sup>th</sup> (date not confirmed) to coincide with Salmon Symposium but the location would not work well for those. Steering Committee discussed ensuring a neutral stance from the Partnership, and not linking the events, but allowing people an opportunity to participate in both.

**July Minutes:** Approved unanimously.

### **RFP Process**

- Mostly the same as last year.
- Brianne will miss the 14<sup>th</sup> but can review and have notes back to group before meeting Steering Committee have scores to coordinator to combine by 16<sup>th</sup> and meet via phone to discuss 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Motion to approve RFP schedule by Brianne. Second by Marc.

### **Action Items:**

Jim: will send a series of invites to everyone has this on the calendars

### **NFHP Funding Update FY17 (Jessica)**

- Approved for FY17 coordination application with USFWS and paperwork submitted. FY17 award will end Sept 31<sup>st</sup>. FY18 will bring us through to May 2019.

### **Allocating FY18 Funds**

- With relatively recent transition TNC's role is less robust. Corinne was good about writing in Partnership work in many projects, so funding base was more diverse. Now, the vast majority comes from USFWS, some from TNC, some from Symposium but we are really reliant on USFWS. Want to work in more room for contracting because we're short capacity. Discussion/Ideas:
  - Convene a development committee;
  - Contract funds for grant writing, outreach etc
  - Write a standard proposal within the NFHAP proposal for capacity building (due Oct 9<sup>th</sup>)
  - Coordination vs Project Funds-those are treated very different through USFWS.

### **Action Items:**

Jessica: Will look into process for more coordination funds

Christy, Libby, Brianne: Can be involved in a discussion with Jessica to look at options for capacity committee; talk about how to fold this discussion into the symposium.

### **At-Large Seats Up for Renewal**

- Tyonek: Dec 2018
- Alaska Center: Dec 2018
- Alaska Salmon Alliance: Terminates Dec 2017 (Arni has held for 4<sup>th</sup> year, will need to take time off)
- Native Village of Ekluta: Terminates Dec 17, can reply for second term

Announce seats now and at Symposium. Ask people to submit letter of interest due in December and review in January before Steering Committee meeting. Invite newly selected members to Jan meeting.

### **Symposium Planning Update**

- Planning a little later than planned but coming together.
- Funding:
  - Applied for Cabela's but were not successful.
  - \$2,000 goal for donations from Partners. Still short on this and looking for other donations, but optimistic we can hit this goal.
  - Story telling session on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Waiting to hear from TNC on if we have funds to do it

- Key note: Dr. Tara Martin adjunct professor at BC-use math and statistic to model their conservation priorities.
- Strategic Action Plan: Will talk about what makes sense for us to do to gather information from attendants at the Symposium through capacity and development/strategic plan discussions that are planned.

### **Outreach**

- Site Tour: Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>. 28 people attended including presenters. VIP focus and focus on fish passage and the science that informs it. Great feedback from head of USFWS-Alaska Region & Commissioner Cotton. Mike: It was a great mixture of agency decision makers, local borough representation, and other political representation at state and national level. People got the message that fish passage work is beyond conservation but infrastructure, flooding, and other protection
- Contracted Outreach: Catherine Inman doing booth and other contracted outreach work for the Partnership.

### **Science and Data committee**

- Jeff Davis stepping down as Co-chair. Jon Gerken leading effort to find new co-chair for the RFP process.

### **National Updates**

- FWS: The DOI had started an internal review of all boards and committees that personnel are engaged in, and NFHAP was on that list. No specific response concerns identified for NFHAP, so they are back to business as usual.
- Invitation to present at the National FHP board meeting in mid-late October: We have some funds allocated for travel if they wanted to go to update NFHAP board on what Mat-Su is up to.  
Mike: Recognizing timing is tight and everyone is busy. This meeting provides an opportunity to get exposure and engagement at the board and national level-particularly given Mat-Su partnership and high performing level. If anyone is interested let Jessica know ASAP, otherwise, will request another slot at a future board meeting.

### **Next Meeting: November 14<sup>th</sup>**

Facilitator: Jim

Notetaker: Christy

**Adjourn at 3:15pm**