**Steering Committee Meeting**

Mat-Su Borough Office

350 East Dahlia Avenue, Conference Room 203, Palmer

**Tuesday January 9, 2017 1:30 – 4 pm**

Teleconference #: 1-605-475-5602

Participant Passcode: 7101440550

**Meeting Notes**

**Facilitator:** Jim **Notetaker**: Brianne

**Committee Members Present:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| In-person  Jim DePasquale  Kelly Ingram  Brianne Blackburn  Marc Lamoreaux | Phone  Christy Cincotta  Erika Ammann  Jess Johnson  Trent Liebich |

**1. Welcome at-large Steering Committee member seat holders**

* Native Village of Eklutna (2nd term)- Marc Lamoreaux representing. Some of NVE’s priorities for the upcoming year include:
  + FWS grant: Eklutna Riparian habitat that could be restored –recommendations for how much flow should be requested for this work
  + Interest in symposium breakout about quantifying Mat River Salmon
  + Knik Public Use Area: exploring ATV damage
  + Eklutna Dam: about 20 ft left to take down but had some trouble with sediment washout
  + Brownfields: Contaminated sites program, Matanuska Town Site
  + Eklutna underground plume, north of village between village and inlet-risk of contaminating wetlands
* Thomas Cappiello (1st term): Unable to make meeting
* Exiting member Arni Thompson: Kelly will circulate card for thank you.
  + ***Action Item:*** Please email Kelly if you want to include a message.
* Alternate applicant Theo Garcia: Encourage to reapply in 2018
  + ***Action Item:*** Kelly will work with Christy to connect with Theo directly.
* Jess Johnson taking over for Gillian:
  + Hired in Sept-was able to participate with Science and Data committee this fall

**2. Partnership Business**

* **NFHP application update** (Kelly): Successfully submitted. Thank you for everyone’s input! This application was a synopsis of our work 2014-2016 and highlight next year’s projects. Last year received a 3 (highest score) so we’re hopeful again this year. Should find out in March this year instead of May.
* **Fish habitat performance evaluation**: Coming up in May. Done every 3 years and may require some input from steering committee members.
* **Fish habitat workshop** (National) being planned in October, waiting for input from National
* **Strategic Action Plan update** (Christy): Subcommittee met Jan 3rd. Lookinng at contracting options to complete the plan using two contractors:

1. Inventory of NFHP and non-NFHP partner accomplishments using a contractor that is familiar with partnership (have discussed approaching ARRI) and
2. Next steps with prioritization survey, ranking, summary, facilitated scoping meetings and incorporating report-put out RFP.
   * Timeline is relatively flexible, but we have set a goal for debut at symposium

* **Evaluating project proposals for NFHP funds** (Jim): Clear delineation between projects as the scoring fleshed - Boots on the ground rose to the top vs data acquisition ranking consistently lower (and likely not funded)
  + These projects focused on data can really be a tool for communicating the work we do-capacity building, marketing, drawing outside projects to the Mat-Su.
  + Science and data committee discuss our position on fostering development of data.
  + ***Action Item***: Jim will get in touch with Science and Data committee to discuss.

**3. Other Committee Updates**

* **Outreach** (Kelly): Get rolling for 2018 with a meeting soon and make workplan for the year-Priorities on the horizon: Progress report (Feb/Mar) done every 2 years (2016/2017); video projects-boots on the ground clips to be used in various ways; VIP site tour, Symposium
  + Note: Wildlife Wednesday coming up Feb 7th (at Experiment Farm).
  + ***Action Item:*** They are still looking for May speaker and would like a Steering Committee member to introduce the speaker (contact Kelly or Sierra @ ADF&G)
* **Symposium Planning** (Kelly): Kicking-off soon.
  + ***Action Item:*** Let Kelly know if interested in participating. Looking for ideas for Key Note speakers!
* **Science and Data** (Laura or Jon not available; Jim gave update): They will be getting together soon to discuss committee make up and are looking at adding/filling seats.
  + ***Action Item:*** Jim is interested and will contact Jon Gerken.

**General Partner Updates** (all or any attendees)

* Chris Cunningham from Cedar Grove Compost: Reached out to Jon Gerken:
  + Interested in the requirements the State of Alaska has on managing stormwater from municipal, industrial, mines, and big oil exploration and drilling sites. Looking at the use of compost as stormwater and filtration BMP’s on these sites. Planning a spring/summer trip to a few different regions in Alaska to explore methods of salmon bearing stream preservation and are trying to align with some key decision makers in advance to learn about Alaska and how industrial stormwater is currently managed and to see if there is a need for compost to help with this ongoing effort.
  + Hosting 4th annual landscape architecture Specifying Soils event, March 29th. Emphasizing compost-based stormawater management options. Interested in brining someone from the Mat-Su down to teach about restoring urbanized areas to salmon-friendly habitat.
  + ***Action Item***: Kelly will invite to give a brief presentation about the use of compost for stream restoration at our March 13 meeting.
* **Amy:** Tracking signatures for title 16 ballot initiative
  + On morning of 16th, trying to gather a crowd as they’ll be submitting signature books to Division of Elections
* **Brianne:** MSB Mayor appointed John Wood to fill vacant FWC seat

**Upcoming Events:**

* Western Division American Fisheries Society Meeting: May 21-25, 2018 in Anchorage (including a fish films organized by Jess Johnson)
  + May 22: Fish films taking place after conference activities-location to be determined
  + Any exhibitor opportunities for this meeting? Kelly will contact Jeff Falke, AK chapter president elect, about opportunities.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, March 13th 1:30-4pm at ADFG conference room in Palmer

**\*Need facilitator and notetaker.**