

Conservation Lands Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes - November 7, 2025
APPROVED

Meeting convened at 3:04 pm with members Mike Taylor (Chair) John Barry, Tanner Horst, Larry Landry, Colleen Stansbury, Kathy Streveler & Susan Warner; Shelley Owens (Secretary) & Sally McLaughlin (Mayor).

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 22, 2025 meeting were approved by consensus.

Reports from committee members

- TNC Gustavus Forelands Preserve

Colleen and Larry described the decision to postpone the celebration due to the unavailability of ADF&G personnel, moose biologists, and event organizers. Hank supported the decision. Larry is continuing to collect photos.

- Southeast Alaska Land Trust Beach Meadows easement update

Susan: the NAWCA committee is meeting 11/25 and Stephanie expects to hear of result by Thanksgiving. Margaret and Stephanie will proceed with other grants if NAWCA doesn't come through. [NOTE: The NAWCA grant was awarded to another applicant.] Dan Hysel has prepared a map of the conservation easement on the Avenza app which can be downloaded to a phone and which shows property boundaries. Susan will do a demonstration on January 9th on how to download and use the app. Tanner said Hank has the TNC maps on the Gaia app. Susan noted dog poo in the meadow and Colleen offered to collect it.

- January exhibit of Lands Maps at GCC Gallery

Mike suggested including conservation lands, where located and how protected, including the TNC Forelands; Dude Creek, the beach meadows and Park, and the Conservation Easement. Discussion included an array of maps matched with photos and John's descriptive text, and information on their ecological values. The display could include Committee materials and management plans, artifacts and artwork. The Gallery opening on the 1st Friday is January 2nd, and he suggested Jan. 9th to the end of the month. Mike and Snug Harbor offered to pay the \$20 fee.

Sally asked if the maps will include how the public can use them, and it was agreed the display will add available uses. John said his description can include information to assist people to access without trespassing. Sally offered the City's extra laptops for display. Mike said photos are needed. Susan suggested AK Litho mount photos on foam core. Larry suggested including Nature Conservancy activities such as moose hunting, berry picking, and weddings. John and Mike will lead with Colleen assisting.

Discussion continued regarding unprotected lands; use of the DCED 2011 community survey maps; Willow Way access, section line easements, brochure preparation about

access to public lands or conservation lands, an inventory publication and CLAC's roles and responsibilities.

- MHLT parcel along Rink Creek south of the section line.

Mike noted the presence of Cranes in the Island View area, and John commented that it's the only way to get to the beach from Rink Creek and that the issue is public access, not necessarily habitat and other uses. Discussion included tideline surveys, identifying accreted land, private property easements, and MHLT leasing and disposal. SEALT wants a description of the public interest in the area and John and Mike will develop a position paper to bring to the Committee. SEALT will research if there are tideland surveys of accreted lands being done, and there was consensus for continuation of John's approval to contact SEALT. Larry will brush the easement to clear the boundaries and locate the Findley monument caps.

- Other land issues

John: MHLT has listed 5 tracts for sale including: Tong Rd on the section line to Bobby Chase's logging road; north almost to the plane crash site; 3 smaller tracts along the river; and large unsubdivided tracts of 130 acres. Mike: questioned if there is interest in the parcels from a conservation standpoint don't know if we're interested and John agreed he doesn't think a case can be made from a conservation standpoint.

Public comment: Sally complimented the Committee on doing an amazing job and said the City will help however it can.

Next meeting: Friday Dec. 5th @ 3:00 pm in City Hall

Adjournment: 4:40pm

Submitted by Shelley Owens