

Acadia All American Road

1/18/2011

Minutes

Attending: Anne Krieg, John Kelly, Allison Navia, George Hopkins, Pete Lazas, Betsy Meister, Johanna Stacy, Jim Fisher, Fred Michaud, Anne Krieg, Stephanie Clement

Byway Grant Proposals

- Jim noted that there is no word yet on funding. It may be March before decisions are made.
- Fred Michaud said that decisions can come any time.

Any changes needed to prior proposals if they are not funded?

- 1) Gateway signs and visitor information – still a good proposal
- 2) Airport – Boat Launch – still a good proposal. Airport supports it.

Matching funds?

- Allison:
 - Airport still has funds in place
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- Anne: Town would use undesignated reserves
 - Town council can do a line item transfer
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- Pete: Museum proposal: Understand that funds are less likely for this proposal
 - Ground needs to be frozen to move the building
 - Owner is waiting to hear what we receive

Dark Sky Initiative

- Byway funds might match local or business expenditures to reduce obtrusive lighting
- Sustainable tourism development fund – small source of funds that might be a portion of the match. Private funds from local hotels.
- Business
- Subcommittee
 - Peter Lord
 - Anne Krieg
 - Stephanie Clement
 - Jim Fisher
- Work out the details of the proposal – bring it back to the committee
- Jim – find out about eligibility of federal funds for private signs

Side note

- Route230 project is moving ahead, but airport entrance will not be moved for now.

- Study whether the

Water Access

- Might not be a grant
 - What would we fund?
 - Might be more of planning process
- Public access points are limited to
 - Trenton – Airport
 - Thompson Island
 - Hadley Point
 - Northeast Creek
 - Bar Harbor waterfront

Noise Management

- What is the benefit to the traveler?
- Some vegetative cover might improve beautification
- Planning process changes – probably not material for a separate byway proposal.

Bluffs Scenic Turnout

- Challenges
 - Ice and rock fall
 - Gravel shoulders
 - Lack of road width
- Funding
 - Fred: FHWA might use highway funds to build this if it is part of the CSS process
 - Would FHWA pay for all of the enhancements of a byway turnout?
 - How do we come up with an estimate of the cost of this project?
- Next steps
 - Conduct an analysis of the project
 - Find out what FHWA would like to see in terms of combined funding

Hospitality training / Marketing

- What training is going on now?
- Anne – what training or communications do we have with the motor coaches
- Acadia National Park
 - ANP conducts seasonal training for all of the motor coach trainers
 - Park has a thick guide book – this might be enhanced with byway resources
 - Some of the motor coach
 - Information does not always filter down to the drivers – company gets
 - Over 50 individual companies are providing

- Big companies – Cyr and Northeast Coach
- Chamber conducts customer training
 - Directed at the hospitality training for food and lodging
- Matching funds might come from the town cruise ship revenues

Update on the CSS process

- Fred Michaud
 - Process is still going well
 - People are representing the diversity of opinions along the corridor
- Today members of the committee expressed reservations about the design from Ireson Hill to the Bluffs
- Discussion of the final section on Eden Street was postponed when time ran out.

Corridor Management Plan update

- Splitting website
- Interactive Map = for input of intrinsic resources
- Jim will post information to revised website and seek input from committee on byway intrinsic values.

Goose Cove Acadia Sea Farm

- Hearing process is complete
- Acadia Sea Farm put out about 30 cages near to Thompson Island
- They are still visible.
- Applicant agreed not to put an cages above water in the section closest to the byway
- The visual impact will be much less
- Park's position is that the change in operations has removed the visual impact
- Decision still depends on DMR and Army Corpse considerations
 - They sent a letter with comments for Pettigrew's response
 - We have not seen his response
 - Major concern had to do with elevating the bird population
- DMR – new nominated director from Cherryfield
 - Decision may be on hold until appointment is approved

Changes at MaineDOT

- There have been some staffing changes at MaineDOT
- Still awaiting nomination for LePage Transportation Commissioner