



MAYOR'S REPORT JULY 8, 2024

We have had a busy month meeting with visitors:

Cybersecurity Assessment. Thanks to a grant the City Administrator obtained, we were able to have a team spend two days with City departments assessing the security of our computers. We will be receiving a report with recommendations on how we can improve the system.

AK Department of Natural Resources. Kaitlyn Raffier, Southeast Regional Director of the Division of Mining, Land, and Water, and two staff members visited Gustavus for two days to tour DNR-managed lands. We visited the gravel pit to discuss potential solutions for prolonging the life of or extending the gravel pit, hiked the Hydro Road, and visited the DNR lands south and east of the airport. It was a collegial and informative visit and we appreciate the time they were able to spend with us.

Southeast Alaska Land Trust. Margaret Custer, the Executive Director of the Southeast Alaska Land Trust, met with members of the City Council and the Conservation Lands working group. She was accompanied by her husband Jason and daughter. The group toured the beach meadows and walked the Hydro Road. After lunch, we had the fortune to meet with Dick and Lin Levitt during their visit to Gustavus. Dick shared a history of the development of the Falls Creek Hydro Project and public access on the Hydro Road.

Public Access on the Hydro Road. The dispute resolution process with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the Olneys, AP&T, and a City work group continues. The City submitted a proposal on behalf of the community on June 27th and is awaiting a response from the parties.

The Xunaa Borough Petition. As noted last month, the Local Boundary Commission released its preliminary staff report on May 28th recommending against adoption of the Xunaa Borough petition in its current form. There is a public comment period until July 8th after which a public hearing is currently scheduled for September 10th in Hoonah. LBC website:

<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/dcra/LocalBoundaryCommission>

Councilmember Janene Driscoll has resigned from the City Council effective July 8th. We thank her for her service to Gustavus, especially the beautification project, and wish her the very best.

And wishing you and your families a safe, happy, and healthy summer,

Shelley

