

Tourism Advisory Board Meeting/ Meeting Agenda

Friday, July 15, 2005 – 8:15 a.m.

Meeting Call to Order: Marilyn Josephson

Roll Call: Present - Karen Hess, Marilyn Josephson, Jeff Butcher, Judy Heinmiller, Darsie Culbeck

Absent - Shane Horton, Tom Crandall

Also Present - Lee Heinmiller, Shane Roberts, Bart Henderson, Bruce Hale, Lori Stepansky

Approval of Agenda: Approved

Approval of Minutes: Approved

President's Report: Pavilion Project Update – Marilyn called upon Lee Heinmiller to discuss the issues for location of the covered pavilion structure for the Port Chilkoot Dock. Lee explained the historical values of the building now owned by Bart Henderson and that it would not be favorable for blocking the view from this building as well as from the vantage points of the water. Lee also explained with a drawing layout on the chalkboard where land is owned by the Port Chilkoot Organization and the Haines Borough. The area to the left of the pier walkway is extremely small and even if the currently discussed structure would fit in the 20-foot section owned by the Borough, he would not support the structure blocking view of the old signal office building. Lee then suggested locating the pavilion structure on the right side of the dock entrance and the pros and cons of placing it there. Lee also discussed the ownership of the land where the designated Public Parking is located. Lee stated he has attempted to discuss the issue of the Public Parking signs in that area and types of required insurance for parking lots with now three city/borough managers with Robert Venables being the first one to at least make an attempt to research the issue.

Other issues discussed for this project were fill dirt options, size of building and layout, allotted space for bus parking, placing the structure on the dock itself which was suggested by Bart Henderson but not supported by the board, potential costs of fill, sewer and water lines, moving the fire hydrant, and the look of the exterior of the building compared to the other Fort buildings.

The discussion concluded with Marilyn and Darsie being designated to research the specifics for having the exterior of the building blend in with the look of the Fort. Contact will be made, with the assistance of Lee Heinmiller, with designer Allen Rogers in Juneau and Ron Casperson for an adequate sketch and design to present to the Planning Commission and likely the Fire Marshall in Juneau in order to verify the structure will comply with code. Overall, everyone agreed the

structure should be placed on the right side of the pier walkway as if one was facing the water.

Dock Flowers – Project Complete – Lori and Marilyn reported the project of putting flowers on the dock was complete and feedback was nothing but good. Other board members commented that the flowers look great. Judy Heinmiller asked if there were any boxes that were not sponsored yet and asked if others could participate at this time. Lori replied that there were not any boxes not sponsored and hoped there would be more next year.

Old Business: **Holland America – Official press release for 2006** – Lori reported that she had sent out a notice with the Holland America press release that there would be 15 calls next year by Holland and they were scheduled to be in port from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Lori also reported that scheduled she was able to view on-line with other cruise lines such as Princess did not reflect Haines at this time. Karen verified cruise ship schedules for next year are still not finalized.

New Business: **Tourism Advisory Board** – Lori reported that her understanding is the CVB Advisory Board was now officially named the Tourism Advisory Board and was now a 7-member board. Lori stated she was not certain if Herb VanCleve was the appointed board liaison for the Assembly.

TV – VCR and DVD player for Visitor Center – Lori reported that the small TV/VCR unit in the visitor center is no longer functional. Lori also stated that visitors do ask about certain videos that have been seen at the visitor center and it is a nice feature for people passing through. Lori requested that if anyone was aware of or had in their possession for donation or purchase of a TV, VCR, and DVD player, to let her know about this so she could pursue acquiring these items. Lori also stated that she would like to have a DVD video of footage and photos of points of interest around Haines for guests at the visitor center to view.

Ride Yukon – Lori stated that some might have noticed an increase of motorcyclists in the area two weeks ago and attributed many of those numbers to the new TIA Yukon annual event Ride Yukon that targets the motorcycle market. Lori reported they have a trade show for this event but received information about it too late to participate but would definitely keep it in mind for next year.

Directors Report: **Outdoor Channel** – Lori reported that she had been contacted by Trey Carskadon of the film crew recently here for the Outdoor Channel. The first Haines program will air the week of the 25th and air every day for a week at different times. Lori will be notified of the program schedule and will be sent a few copies of the program. Lori also reported the second show that will include Haines would be entitled A Tale of Two Cities and feature Haines and Skagway.

Ad designs – New Milepost Back Cover, AK Magazine, AAA, AMHS, Outside Traveler, etc. – Lori reported working on several ad deadlines for the month of July and that all deadlines were met with the exception of AMHS Ferry Schedule as she was still waiting for formatting information from the publisher.

Volunteers for Peplemover Cart – Lori reported that there have been several folks stepping up to the plate to volunteer for the peplemover cart and it seemed the schedule was being covered adequately. Judy Heinmiller inquired if more volunteers were needed. Lori replied if Judy knew of any to have them contact her.

Holland America Haines Port information piece – Lori reported obtaining a copy of the Haines port information distributed on-board by Holland America. Lori reported the Visitor Center staff reviewed the document thoroughly and found 23 errors. Lori stated she has been in contact with Linda Huston of Holland America and they are working together to correct the problem for the ship calls next year. Bart Henderson suggested Lori might be able to contact the cruise lines about their Haines information to verify the information is correct. Lori and all present board members agreed that this should be done.

Lori also reported that the contract for the Haines Corridor Management Plan had not only been sent in but also signed by all required parties. Lori reported that she had sent requested sample RFPs and drafts from Aneta Synan for assistance in writing the RFP, which has been forwarded, to the Borough Clerk, Julie Cozzi, and Robert Venables, Borough Manager. Lori also reported that Robert Venables had indicated to her that the subject would be on the next Assembly Meeting agenda, as funds could not be spent until verification by the Assembly. Lori reported she was also told by Robert that the RFP to contract someone to facilitate the project would be written soon so that it would be in place to post when the process of Assembly discussion was complete. Lori stated she would be compiling a list of persons to form a committee to work with the person or entity that would facilitate the project.

Public Comments: Shane Roberts, president of Chilkat Cruises, commented on a pedestrian safety issue at the Klukwan Fast Ferry dock. Shane stated there have been safety issues of pedestrians crossing the road with all the tour operator traffic and general traffic and he was attempting to have crosswalk lines put in place but was informed he would need to contact the state DOT for approval. Karen Hess suggested he contact Roger Ingledue with Alaska's DOT. Shane requested that a letter of support for this issue be sent to the State by the Tourism Advisory Board when he determines the official contact. The Board agreed to do so.

Set Next Meeting Date: Friday, August 26, 8:15 a.m. – Assembly Chambers, Public Safety Building