

Marina Subcommittee Meeting Minutes June 27, 2018

Attendance: Ali Kovach, Michael Fajans, Jim Colbert, Michael Bledsoe

Process of reviewing Amenity Needs and Wants

We briefly summarized the current effort to examine each amenity, not just specific projects.

Background

The marina is open from Memorial Day to early October – 19 weeks, with the busy period being approximately 7 weeks from the end of June through the third week of August (June 29 through August 20 this year). Popular activities are beach usage and swimming; kayak, paddleboard, and peddle boat rentals; kayak and paddleboard storage and use; and launching of kayaks, paddleboards, and power boats that are stored off-site. TD day camp programs use the marina on Wednesdays and there is a fenced clubhouse and lawn for the kids program at the end of the parking lot.

The principal problems are parking capacity, overcrowding on the beach, and inadequate space for food preparation, limiting the menu options. While some grill items are offered on the menu, they were offered Memorial Day weekend, not offered in June, and will be offered during the peak 7 week period once the marina is able to staff up (J-1s come end of June).

Power boat launching was closed one year because of low water, but is open this year. The number of boat launches is significantly lower than previous years, perhaps because Donner and Tahoe have separate inspection programs (if you are inspected and stickered for one lake, you cannot use the other without a new inspection).

Several years ago, there was a proposal at the board level to eliminate power boat launching at the marina in order to free up space for other activities (both parking and ramp usage). It was proposed that TD pay launch fees for TD residents to launch at the public launch ramp further west on the Lake. It was met by strong resistance by TD boat owners at a town hall meeting and the Board did not pursue the concept.

Parking

There are 32 regular spaces (28 along the south fence), 11 extended boat trailer spaces, and 4 disabled slots. It is rare that the boat/trailer parking spaces are filled, and staff removes the cones to allow cars to park in some of the boat spaces during peak afternoon periods (boat launching and trailer storage is greater in mornings and evenings when the wind is less). ***Ali will monitor boat trailer parking this summer in order to determine whether the number of slots could be reduced.***

There is considerable angle parking on the dirt along the south side of Donner Pass Road (DPR) against the marina fence. There is some danger as visibility is poor when drivers back through the bike lane. Paving and striping the parking is possible but would reduce the number of spaces as the Town of Truckee would want parallel parking and landscaped dividers every few spaces. Marina employees park outside the marina on DPR

Attempts to operate shuttle service from extra parking at the high school have not been successful, there is resistance to unloading gear and taking a shuttle. While there has been discussion about leasing

land from Caltrans across DPR, the beach capacity is also an issue so it may not be desirable to greatly expand marina parking. We discussed two other concepts for some additional parking.

- 1) Using stack parking in front of the south parking spaces. This might allow 8-10 additional spots, but would require an additional staff member over 21 to move cars as required (there are very few employees over 21 years of age. This might cost \$5,000 or more for the 50 days needed (\$20/hour x 5 hours x 50 days). We have not estimated potential insurance costs.
- 2) Offering valet parking, taking cars to the high school or another off-site location. This would require two staff, one adult to drive the cars and another to shuttle the driver.(\$5,000 +).
- 3) Using some of the boat trailer spaces for cars during peak demand period (see discussion above).

While concepts 1 and 2 increase staff cost, running a TD bus to shuttle people has a cost as well. We discussed restricting parking to beach users during peak period. This was rejected due to the difficulty of enforcement and likely push back from TD members who park at the marina while biking, jogging, or using the state park dog beach.

Beach Capacity and Shade

There is limited space on the beach. Staff has restricted use of Easy Ups because they take too much space and interfere with other people. Some shade on the beach would be desirable, staff will explore temporary or permanent shade structures that could be placed at the back of the beach. Encouraging people to use the shadier upper grass area would also provide an alternative area. On a busy day, people do infringe on other people's space, and there have been conflicts. More parking would exacerbate this issue.

With the ability to track the number of unaccompanied guests (higher fee), we are interested to get numbers to determine whether short-term renters or owners and their guests are responsible for the perceived overcrowding at the marina. If it is renters, there is interest in potentially further restricting short-term renters at peak periods.

Food Service

The short season makes members of the sub-committee question the priority of capital expenditure to expand the kitchen area. The building is approximately 21 years old (Miguel) and remodeling/expansion would trigger code upgrades. Options to consider would include using the TD food truck, bringing in food prepared off-site, or leasing space to a third party food truck during the limited peak periods. Since there is a large gate in the fence to the upper grass area, it might be possible to park the food truck there, improving the distribution of customers somewhat. Parking and beach overcrowding are the source of most complaints, not the food service choices.

Other Issues

The requests for kayak and paddleboat storage exceed the capacity. Ali thought the lottery procedure this year resulted in less dissatisfaction than other years. Concepts for higher stacking of kayak and use of a forklift were considered and rejected due to wind concerns, cost, and inability of a fork lift to access both sides of a rack. Charging higher rates for storage and offering one month options are other options, and may be considered if demand keeps increasing well beyond capacity.

Mfajans 7/9/18