

Pre Season Cruise Meeting

DRAFT Notes January 9, 2019

(updated 2-27-19)

Identify issues and areas of concern; ideas for tourism; develop a plan and priorities; Short and long term.

Identified Issues:

Dock staging area
4th of July
How to fund
New rates/ changes
Ordinance
insurance

List of Visitor Improvement Ideas, Issues or Concerns: (to build upon)

Bathrooms at Petroglyph Beach
Bathrooms near dock
Need to be able to accommodate all charters at the dock
Need gathering places for the passengers
Develop a positive/good presentation – what will pax see when they get off the ship? Dress Wrangell up
Wayfinding plan and signs
Address ways to deal with kids that sell garnets
Interpretive signage by Barge yard
Pressure Wash Dock prior to season to remove bird dookie and shells etc.
Trident needs to clean up garbage by bunkhouse and harbor parking lot.
Wrangell is also important independent travel destination – not just cruise.
Two additional summer floats @ 130' each
Fix the Petroglyph Beach Dock and stairs and area for parking. Open conversation with State regarding parking/turnaround area because sometimes 4 busses trying to fit .
Fix steps up to Reid Street by Taylors house – foundations and wood pressure washed
A tidepool touch pool – maybe partner with school to build a concrete pool / circulating water
Potential for Chugach to be displayed at Museum – interpretive of the wooden vessel, timber industry, marine boat yards etc.
Use of local land (parks and rec) resources by ships and ways to soft push them into responsibly donating to cover their added wear and tear

Staging Area discussion

Southend of dock (near where vans to Ak Vista parks) use a 40X24 tent area.
Elderly using busses, they need to park close to the dock. Park bus ends out toward water would take up less space/visibility
Cul de sac – need to minimize traffic on cruise ship day.
One option block off entrance but need to make sure vendors/buses/vans set up early. Stevedoring park out further.
Modify signage... currently says 30 minutes.
Train users in the area – coffee clients and other - to park further and walk.
Paving of some of the barge yard to minimize mud

Fill in the hotel between ramp and hydrant next to where Stikine Inn will be filling so no hole. Work with Stik as part of their fill.

Cover walk area of the dock with tent... either half or full area. Partition based on needed tours. High enough for equipment.

Allow access for emergency vehicles.

Rather than tent, construct more permanent structure. Roof, lean to, water front master plan type bldg.

Majority choice at meeting was to construct covered area on the dock, rather than on fill near barge yard

Dock:

Need another float or two on south side of dock - piling should be under Nationwide for replacement.

Steel piling about 8k for each.

Logistic issues to access south floats if Barge is in – cannot utilize. (summer barges come in Sun. evening.)

Operational Issues:

Insurance with cruise ships – but currently no coverage with Borough and the Borough needs to be listed as additionally insured. Show proof of coverage to borough.

Need to determine best process for affirming coverage

Potential fees/rates for operators

Recognize that any ordinance passed will not be for this summer as contracts are in and rates set.

Gangways need to be ½ grated and ½ plain

Doesn't make sense to charge fees until know what the plan is.

Additional Comments:

Stikine Inn will continue to allow vendors in area of the vendor shelter until building is constructed. Use is usually self managed. They just need to check with Jake prior to season or first time to sell.

If busses could use alley between gas station and elks (currently agreement with AP&T to use) could exit out south barge entrance.

Nolan Center is planning to expand / have more “markets” for increasing number of ships if vendors want to participate.

Security Person on dock must be there 2 hours prior – could not be used to monitor entrance to cul de sac

In 2019 will be 3 major construction projects with barge requirements: Secon/Bennet Street; Hospital; Shoemaker Bay Harbor.

City is working on a Nuisance abatement ordinance to clean up town.

CPV funds: Currently \$182,000, with an expected \$50,000 to be paid to Borough in Feb or March.

Approximately \$135,000 currently budgeted for Mt. Dewey Trail extension and restrooms at Petroglyph Beach.

Tax in Juneau is a tax on vessel, the CPV funds are taxes on passengers

Cruiselines don't understand Wrangell, community, logistics. Be the Port That Can.. figure out ways to do what they need

Boatyard tours are huge draw, of interest to visitors, yet potentially huge liability and safety issue. Boat yard and container yard. Been some close calls between fork lifts and tour vehicle. OSHA walked yard and provided recommendations.

Meeting ending: consensus to work toward a cover area on the dock for this summer .

Still to discuss:

4th of July issues

Future scheduling of ships

Continue with list of tourism needs

Continue fee structure discussion to pay for improvements

Long term plan and priorities