

MINUTES Douglas Island Advisory Board – Oct.16, 2024 - 5:00pm
THIS MEETING will be in person at the DOUGLAS LIBRARY

The Douglas Advisory Board was originally created as the Douglas Service Area Advisory Board in 1970 when the City of Douglas unified with the City of Juneau and the Greater Juneau Borough to become the City and Borough of Juneau. In 2007 the Assembly adopted Resolution 2331 which repealed the previous governing legislation for the board and recreated it as the Douglas Advisory Board giving it new focus to encompass issues related to all of Douglas Island rather than that portion of the island previously covered by the Douglas Service Area.

Member Attendance:

☒ Ed Schoenfeld
☒ Mary Kay Pusich
☒ Joyce Vick
☐ Ben Rubenstein

☐ Jackie McMaster
☒ Matt Catterson
☐ Shannon Crossley

Call-in by phone: Note: DAB members may call into the meeting by phone (limit 2). For the call-in number, please email the chair.

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call.** 5pm called to order, 4 members present- we have a quorum
- II. Land Acknowledgement.** Ed read the land acknowledgement
- III. Approval of Agenda.** None
- IV. Unfinished Business.**
 - **New member-**
 - Ben Rubenstein- not present- lives in Douglas-2nd street- needs assignments
 - **Douglas Island Cemeteries**
 - Ed reviewed public comments from Douglas Candidate Forum,
 - Michelle Hale- assembly committee of the whole- was in support, no longer part of assembly
 - New assembly members- Maureen Hall- uncertain about cemeteries, but interested
 - i. Ed will put together answers from candidate forum and distribute to DAB members
 - ii. District 1- Neil Steiniger- current financial needs of the city take priority
 - iii. Would be good to get new assembly members tour of cemeteries
 - iv. Joyce- invite them to next DAB meeting
 - v. Mary Kay- properties- some title information still unclear
 - vi. Beth Weldon- cemeteries not a priority, trying to determine how parks and rec can do maintenance
 - vii. Mark Kay- volunteers are flagging- will not get any better without CBJ taking over- they do have money cemeteries are just not a priority
 - viii. Has CBJ issued the request for information (RFI) for non-profits to take on the project- unclear? Would Trail Mix be interested?
 - ix. Pioneers of Alaska- Dorene may be an advocate
 - **“Welcome To Douglas Island” Sign at Roundabout**
 - Jackie will take it over project- Mary Kay has sent her info
 - i. Mary Kay- reach out to Goldbelt to see if they are interested
 1. DAB has no capacity to fund or organize fund raising efforts
 2. DOT regulations on roundabout- still need to get these- action item
 - a. Matt asked about placing the sign adjacent to the roundabout rather than inside it as a work-around for DOT specific rules, but need to know what those are first
 - **Historic Fire Equipment**
 - Parks and Rec advisory board was agreeable, require it to be sandblasted first
 - i. Need to follow up with Parks and Rec

- ii. Someone needs to stay in touch with Dale on this- Josh Anderson on Parks and Rec board was interested- Mary Kay will make some calls or send a letter to PRAC board
- iii. Cradle need to be built and sandblasting needs to occur before moving it
- iv. Joyce does not think sandblasting is useful- and a cover over it may not be beneficial

- **Election results impact-** discussed during cemeteries topic above

V. **New Business.** Discussion topics:

- Goldbelt Plans for new cruise ship development on backside of Douglas
 - i. Has been part of Goldbelt's long term plan
 - ii. Ed thinks we need to keep our eyes on it
 - 1. May compete with Huna Totem development downtown
 - 2. Ed has heard that some cruise ship companies are done negotiating with municipalities- and will build their own infrastructure, etc...
 - 3. Some community concern about moving visitors away from downtown
 - 4. Lots of local concern
 - 5. Joyce thinks it's a good idea to spread out cruise ships
 - iii. Keep an eye out for public meetings
 - iv. Taxes would still apply? Passenger tax?
 - v. DAB could host a public information meeting in the future
- Planning commission legislative priorities- second crossing rated high, over some housing projects
- Parks and Rec commercial recreation use analysis- public open house (10/30 at Diamond Park Field House) and online comment period- 10/23-11/8
- Douglas area plan steering committee is restarting work- first meeting is 10/23, there is a draft document for review

VI. **Reports.**

- CBJ Assembly
 - Shannon- assembly did not protest Louie's liquor license
- Juneau Area Plans
 - Meeting on 23rd, Joyce will share the draft plan- be aware of open meetings act, CBJ wants it completed by December
- Lands & Resources- nothing- maybe a topic for Ben to take on
- Treadwell Society- no meetings, some homeless issues but nothing new
- Douglas 4th of July Committee-
 - coming up on the ghost walk- Ed put it on Facebook- 26th
 - had a good year but committee members may be dwindling
 - Skate with Santa- weekend of Thanksgiving
 - Christmas tree lighting
- Docks & Harbors- North Douglas launch ramp float removal- occurring as usual this week
- Planning Commission/Community Development
 - Rezoning of city land- 40 acres south of Grant Creek- D3 to D18- multi family; another area close to grant creek; another 77 acres near Fish Creek RR-D3, RR to D3 near bonnie brae
 - i. A couple hundred acres in total
 - ii. More city efforts to open more land to housing
 - iii. Mary Kay asked about traffic studies? Likely related to second crossing- none have been done to our knowledge
- Parks & Rec- Commercial recreation use analysis study- described earlier in meeting

- Treadwell Ditch Renovation Project- nothing new- bridges are complete
- Eaglecrest Ski Area- Black bear chair has significant maintenance issue and may not be operational this winter
 - Snowmaking equipment- additional maintenance issues require work- but should be functional this winter
 - Joyce asked about the area where fireworks are sold- hotel/casino
- Juneau-Douglas North Crossing- nothing new
- Douglas Highway- PR announcement that work is done-
 - Some issues with on-street parking changes- loss of parking spaces
 - Ed sent a note to PR about the parking patches about bumps in road- considering reaching out to CBJ
 - Lawson creek bridge work will continue
 - Crosswalks- great improvement but the retaining wall is still incomplete

VII. Public Participation on agenda items. None

VIII. Comments/Questions/Announcements from DAB Members. None

IX. Next meeting. December- Exact dates to be determined, no real attendance requirements for committee members- Ed will send out an email

X. Adjourn

CBJ Monitoring/Tracking

SEE ALL CBJ Meetings, Agendas, Minutes: <https://juneau.org/assembly/assembly-minutes-and-agendas>

Ann

- **CBJ Assembly and Standing Committees:** <https://juneau.org/assembly/assembly-minutes-and-agendas>

Joyce

- **Juneau Area Plans/Steering Committee:** <https://juneau.org/community-development/juneau-area-plans>
 - Comprehensive Plan: (webpage under construction)
 - Douglas/West Juneau Area Plan: <https://juneau.org/community-development/douglas-west-juneau>
 - Blueprint Downtown Area Plan: <https://juneau.org/community-development/blueprint-downtown>

Mary Kay

- **Lands & Resources:** <https://juneau.org/lands>
- **Lands Committee:** <https://juneau.org/lands/lands-committee>
- **Land Studies & Plans:** <https://juneau.org/lands/land-studies-and-plans-2>

Jo

- **CBJ Docks & Harbors:** <https://juneau.org/harbors>

Shannon

- **Planning Commission:** <https://juneau.org/community-development/planning-commission>
- **Community Development:** <https://juneau.org/community-development> (586-0758)
- **Parks & Recreation:** <https://juneau.org/parksrec>

Ed

- **Treadwell Ditch Renovation Project:** <https://www.juneaucf.org/index.php/treadwell-ditch/>

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- **Eaglecrest Ski Area:** <https://skieaglecrest.com/taskforce/>
- **Second Crossing North Douglas:** https://juneau.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/MOA-JNU-NORTH-CHANNEL-2ND-XING-PEL-STUDY_White-approved.pdf or contact rorie.watt@juneau.org 586-5240, or DOTPF Southeast Region Planning Chief Mari Heidemann, marie.heidemann@alaska.gov, 465-4477.