



Seldovia Gazette

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Thursday, July 26, 2007

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Readers,

...

I have been thinking a lot about the cannery property and the issues surrounding it. I believe it has been stated that the property is presently zoned "industrial marine". I contend that the property's zoning could be changed to include other uses. If it were, then perhaps, the quality of our City would improve. The City has had a great deal of trouble enforcing the zoning on the waterfront lots that were sold over time. At present, there are still some lots that were originally designated for business that are basically homes. Perhaps, an original buyer of the land has complied with the zoning, but when the property has changed hands the use changed as well and it all seems to have gotten lost in translation. "Oh, well," everyone seems to say, "Life goes on." Who is to say that this would not happen again on the cannery property? How will it be managed and the leases enforced?

In addition to these concerns, I happened to notice, sitting on the table at the first meeting about the cannery project, a folder with a wonderful plan for a multi-use building as well as some shops, and other uses that was developed by a consultant and former City Management. I thought it looked like a wonderful plan. Why is it not being considered? Why was it conceived and paid for, by the City, if it was not something possible for our city.


It provided for an attractive building that would be the gateway to our city as one arrived off the ferry, which we hope to keep vital and coming to Seldovia on a regular basis, not just with cars, vans and trucks transporting the things we need for building and surviving, but with visitors interested in seeing an interesting small city. I believe this multi-purpose building could be large enough and versatile enough to host events, meetings, and projects of all kinds that would be attractive to visitors and useful for our own citizens. Perhaps it could be the home for small offices that could be rented to small businesses which would like to work out of Seldovia. We have nothing like this available to the public in Seldovia at the present time. Beyond the attractive grounds of this building could be fishing and boating industry buildings.

I believe we need to use this property to serve the most businesses that we can, rather than just one or two large

manufacturing type businesses that would probably want to put up rather unattractive prefab buildings.. I believe we need to enhance the beauty of our ferry dock area and the usage of the land. Rezone the area, and begin to think about what Seldovian's really need in order to make a better place to live.

Sincerely,

Susan Mumma
 Box 41 Seldovia, AK 99663
 907-234-7614

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| (Click on button below) | <p>Special Interest Forum: From time to time, topics of discussion will come up that are not a good fit for the Letters to the Editor section . . . usually due to things like the length of the letters or the need to post responses sooner than once a week on Thursday. Click the "Forum" button to enter this section. If you have a topic that you would like started, please let us know.</p> |
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