



Seldovia Gazette

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Thursday, Sep. 25, 2008

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Letters to the Editor

Public Land use - Lot 1, Block 13 . . .

To the citizens of Seldovia and the City Council

This letter sets forth the proposition for land use of public zoned land Lot 1, Block 13.

I was asked by the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce to spearhead the movement of obtaining a gazebo to be placed upon this lot for the enjoyment of all people and visual betterment of Seldovia. Also, at the July 1, 2008 meeting of the Seldovia Parks & Rec. Committee, a vote was taken by the members present and the idea of a gazebo on Lot 1, Block 13 was unanimously supported. The Seldovia Chamber of Commerce at its July 2008 meeting took a vote and it was unanimously passed to take the steps necessary to have a gazebo placed upon this public lot land.

What I am asking you at this time is for a decision that we may proceed in obtaining plans to build a gazebo and have use of this land for public use. If there is some question as to the public's desires for this land use, I suggest that at the next election, this question be put on a ballot at the polls. I would be willing to help with the wording of this ballot, if the Council so desired. There was some question two years ago as to the validity of a poll that was taken for land usage of this lot. I can assure you this poll was accurate and fair and the general public was totally in favor of keeping this lot zoned as public and not allowing it to be rezoned for sale to private individuals or other entities.

Here is the proposal:

Dakota Stranik (currently in college as an architect major) is designing a gazebo for us as a class project. The design includes:

- 18 feet in diameter
- 5 feet above the ground - The reason for this is the Gazebo will serve as a platform for public functions (4th of July) or possibly outdoor concerts.
- 5-7 carvings from the 2009 Craft Invitational Chainsaw

. . .

Carving Contest will be located at the poll locations for supporting the roof. The carvings will have a nautical theme.

- The gazebo will provide an area for people to sit and just look at the harbor with benches that could be removed and would provide shelter during rainy days.
- The gazebo is designed to be able to be moved to another location if it should become necessary to move it.

Lot 1, Block 13 is a pie shaped lot and would have to be replotted to be able to build a structure of a reasonable size to support a business at this location. In addition, if a building was constructed at this location, a significant loss of visibility of our harbor view would take place. I personally feel this would be an egregious error in permanently removing the beautiful view of our harbor from this side of town.


The Beautification Committee of the Seldovia Chamber of Commerce is writing a grant this winter to apply for funds to improve various small areas of downtown Seldovia. They have asked if I would get some sort of a position from the City Council with regard to the gazebo so they would be able to apply for grant funds for the gazebo building costs. Moreover, in January the Chainsaw Committee organizes the event and we will need to tell the contestants that the contest carvings would fit the design of the gazebo plans.

Your consideration of this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

Mary Glover
 Member of the Seldovia Chamber Board of Directors
 Chairman, Seldovia Parks & Recreation Committee
 Member Chainsaw Carving Committee

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