



**Donner Summit Association (DSA) Core Action Team Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 16, 2025 5-6 PM**  
**In-person meeting at Soda Springs Mountain Resort**



Donner Peak with Railroad Tunnels and Snow Sheds (DSCN7447.JPG)

Motions and votes are given in *italics*; action items are in **red bold**. For various reasons, the minutes below do not reflect the strict chronological order of discussions during the meeting.

**1. Welcome:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Pat. Chris set up a phone connection, but no one connected.

Core Action Team (DSA Board) Attendees: Tom Denzler, Elissa Hambrecht, Pat Malberg, Bill Oudegeest, Chris Parker, Dick Simpson, Mike Spain, and Beth Tanhoff.

Others: Steve Carle (SLPOA)

**2. Approval of the Agenda:**

Dick asked to remove “Holiday Party” from the agenda.

*Dick moved and Tom seconded approval of the amended agenda. The motion was carried unanimously (MSC-U).*

### **3. Approval of Minutes from the December Meeting:**

*MSC (Dick, Elissa) to approve the December meeting minutes.*

### **4. Financial Report (Tom):**

Tom distributed a summary financial report before the meeting. December was another quiet month.

At the December meeting, the Board asked Dick to look into publicizing Powdr Corp's Play Forever Fridays in *DSA News*; Dick has done that. Mike said both Soda Springs and Boreal parking lots are now overflowing with customers on Fridays and people are signing up a week ahead. Pat sent a thank you to Boreal for their donation from the program.

### **5. County Reports:**

Nevada: There was no County representative present, so there was no report.

Placer: There will be a Donner Summit Municipal Advisory Committee (DSMAC) meeting next week. The agenda lists three topics of possible interest to people on the Summit. Dick has included the meeting in the latest *DSA News*. Bill said the Ice Lakes Lodge item is not a big deal; possible subdivision of the property has been public knowledge for a year. Proposed Cisco Grove Campground upgrades are less well known and potentially more interesting.

### **6. Ongoing Projects**

West Van Norden Planning: Alecia Weisman asked for a sketch of the proposed site for a Nevada County Board of Supervisors discussion. There has been no news from that discussion.

Gould Park: Pat, Bill, and Dick met with Placer Parks Planning earlier today. Adding parking on the north side of the river would require additional studies and new approvals because of explicit restrictions in the 2004 approval. It was agreed to revise the vision/goals by moving several facilities to the south side of the river and striking mention of additional parking on the north side. DSA can propose incremental changes; larger changes could be aspirational and part of a larger proposal developed later — a “master plan” from which the specific upgrades that fit within the 2004 scope are implemented now.

Bill thinks the informational signs would cost \$2000 apiece, or slightly more. The proposed artists' corner should be described using 2004 language. JKAE will come back with a preliminary design as a pro bono project. Then DSA should come up with topics for the new signs; Bill suggested selecting topics at our next meeting. We could hold a community meeting to brief locals on plans. **Beth will see whether she can find names and addresses of nearby property owners.** We can bring plans to the DSMAC meeting next week to talk to Cisco Grove Campground representatives.

## 7. Computers and Web Site

Long-Term Digital Storage: Mike asked whether the six people he sent user names and temporary passwords had been able to access the Microsoft 365 system. Pat, Beth, and Tom have not tried yet. Bill wasn't able to get to the DSA system because he already has Microsoft 365; Mike said he needs to log out of his existing account before trying to connect to the new one. Dick hasn't been able to get past the multi-factor authentication (MFA) step because he doesn't have a smart phone. Mike said he has disabled MFA, but that doesn't seem to be making any difference. Mike would like to get Dick connected because Dick has more time and can help others; **Mike and Dick will continue researching these problems.**

Switch to WordPress: Dick said Jeannie and Forrest continue to work on the transition. Jeannie requested Stripe and Mailchimp account information, which Beth provided earlier today. Jeannie has also reordered some of the Adventure page information on the SquareSpace site so that winter activities come up first.

## 8. Internal Matters

2024 Accomplishments/2025 Goals: Pat led a discussion of DSA's 2024 accomplishments and goals for 2025; the discussion substitutes for the annual "tune-up" which has been held in recent years.

Pat's list of accomplishments (augmented by others) includes:

- Regular updates to the DSA web site *News* page.
- Web site upgrade supported by funding from Nevada County
- Continued and improved cooperation with Nevada and Placer counties.
- Meeting with Nevada County Supervisor Hardy Bullock.
- Meetings with Placer Parks (and its Parks Commission) at Gould Park
- National Historic Landmark designation of Summit Camp (a campaign initiated and led by the 1882 Foundation)
- Appointment of Elissa Hambrecht as a DSA Board member
- Completion of the June Summit Cleanup
- A successful September Summit Fest
- Securing Sugar Bowl help in removing tunnel graffiti

- Scheduling a Board meeting at Rainbow Lodge
- Supporting Nevada County's speed limit reduction on Donner Pass Road to 25 MPH
- Supporting construction of a new timber mill on Hwy 89 north of Truckee
- Publication of the final version of the Recreation Master Plan

Pat's list of goals for 2025, also augmented by others, includes:

- Progress on the Gould Park project.
- Outreach to more people in the Summit community.
- A June 7 Summit Cleanup (synchronized with Truckee's cleanup)
- A September 20 Summit Fest (avoids a similar event at Palisades Tahoe the following weekend)
- Completion of a 1-2 page 'letter' describing what DSA does.
- A couple paragraphs about DSA in the next SLPOA newsletter (Bill will do).
- Progress on the Overland Emigrant Trail
- Winter toilets and parking for climbers and backcountry skiers.
- Dog poop collection stations.

Future Meetings: Chris offered to host the next meeting at Sugar Bowl on February 20. He will find a suitable location — possibly in the Village Hall.

## 9. Announcements:

Chris is meeting with Erika Seward about trails and development at Sugar Bowl tomorrow.

Bill has been browsing newspapers from 1947; he noted that toilets and parking were issues then as they are now.

## 10. Adjournment:

There being no other business, Pat adjourned the meeting at 6:01 PM.

Minutes approved by the DSA Board of Directors at its meeting on February 20, 2025.

signed by DSA Secretary, Richard Simpson, \_\_\_\_\_