



PART-TIME RESIDENTS ADVISORY BOARD NEWSLETTER Vol 1, No. 1 Spring 2009

Notes from the PTRAB Chair

This newsletter is the first in what we intend to be an ongoing series to communicate with part-time residents of Snowmass Village. So, let me introduce the PTRAB by answering "who we are, what we do, and how we do it."

WHO WE ARE

The Part-Time Residents Advisory Board is appointed by the Snowmass Village Town Council to serve as a liaison between the Town Council and the Town's part-time, non-voting, property-owning residents. The seven-member Advisory Board is comprised of part-time residents, three of whom represent condominium owners, two of whom represent single-family home owners and two of whom are at-large representatives.

WHAT WE DO

PTRAB's mission is defined by the originating ordinance [Snowmass Village Ordinance No. 09, Series 2005, 08/11/05], which states that the Advisory Board is to "...provide a mechanism of communication and education between second homeowners and the Town..." and "...provide input on issues to assist the Town Council in the establishment of Town policy."

HOW WE DO IT

The Board meets monthly year-round via telephone conference call. In January and July we hold two-day meetings in Snowmass Village which are broadcast on Comcast Cable Channel 11 and available for real-time or post-time viewing via the PTRAB webpage: www.tosv.com under the Boards & Commissions tab.

PTRAB members attend Town Council and other board and commission meetings whenever we are in Snowmass. Additionally, PTRAB hosts an information table at the Thursday night concerts during the summer season and has hosted a reception for part-time residents in December for the past two years.

Two ongoing efforts to increase our outreach to part-time residents are to invite part-timers to sign onto the PTRAB email list and to invite homeowners' associations to designate one or more of their members to serve as a liaison to our Board, attend our on-site meetings in January and July and ensure that our email communications are shared with members of their homeowners' association.

The TOSV has been indispensable in assisting/maintaining a webpage for the PTRAB, where notes from our conference calls, contact information for current Advisory Board members, and other PTRAB documents may be found, www.tosv.com under the Boards & Commissions tab.

We welcome your interest in our Board and hope to hear from you!

Greer Fox
PTRAB CHAIR
Snowmass Village & Knoxville, TN

New Mayor Bill Boineau and Skico CEO Mike Kaplan Headline PTRAB December 2009 Reception

At the height of the holiday season, part-time residents gathered in the new private dining room at Sneaky's Tavern in Base Village and peppered the new Mayor Bill Boineau as well as Aspen Skiing Company President Mike Kaplan with a range of questions.

Mayor Boineau described his history of community participation which culminated in his election as the mayor last November. He thanked those gathered for the opportunity to speak before part-time residents, and he pointed out the many assets part-time residents bring to Snowmass Village.

The mayor moved into local economics: In light of the current downturn, the town has taken necessary steps to decrease the town's budget by at least 10% with a further review in January which brought that reduction up to 20%. Possible areas for cut-back include some town-wide bus service.

The mayor reiterated his position that Related WestPac should "take care of past commitments" and figure out how to give the town a temporary Arrival Center in Base Village's building 7. (His efforts as well as others led to the approval in February of the second of the two Viceroy Hotel buildings and to the approval in March of the Little Nell Residences Snowmass which have now been put on hold due to the unavailability of construction financing.)

Skico head Mike Kaplan offered a sober forecast for the ski season in terms of skier visits and revenue. He pledged the Aspen Skiing Company's commitment to maintaining a high-quality guest experience even in these tough economic times. Sam's Smokehouse, the new restaurant on Sam's Knob, is one of the highlighted new features on-mountain along with the new Sheer Bliss lift. In Base Village, Skico has opened and is excited about Sneaky's Tavern, the perfect après-ski location on the plaza.

Several part-time residents urged the Aspen Skiing Company to either expand their Classic Pass sales and rules or come up with another alternative pass that can benefit part-time residents and their families.

PTRAB Meeting - January 6-7, 2009

ENVIRONMENT

Between 61 percent and 68 percent of all single-family residences and condominiums in Snowmass Village are second homes, according to a study in 2007 by the local environmental group the Sopris Foundation. The entire town produces approximately 57,221 tons per year of residential carbon emission output, and out of that amount residences owned by part-time residents account for about 35,000 tons.

With that in mind, the Sopris Foundation and Executive Director Piper Foster have offered to work with the Town of Snowmass Village to lower energy usage overall.

The town has been working on a plan to reduce energy consumption through its Renewable Energy Mitigation Program. Jason Haber, economic resource director for Snowmass Village, has been instrumental in creating the program with input from Snowmass residents, the Sopris Foundation, Rocky Mountain Institute, CORE and others.

At the March 2 Town Council meeting Haber outlined the evolving program which is now called the Renewable Energy Offset Program. The program creates incentives to incorporate energy efficiencies when remodeling or building new residential units with a particular emphasis on outdoor pools, hot tubs, snowmelt systems and heated garages.

The town's sustainability plan can be viewed at: www.tosv.com under Town Adopts a Sustainability Plan.

MARKEY BUTLER

You'll meet few people in Snowmass who have a higher commitment to service than Snowmass Village resident Markey Butler. Currently, she serves as the president of the Snowmass Village Rotary Club, the executive director of the recently launched Hospice of the Valley and she was elected to the Snowmass Village Town Council last fall after serving as chairwoman of the town's planning commission as well as a host of regional and local boards. This woman is busy.

Markey and her husband Jerry now live full-time in Snowmass, but the former part-time resident has said that she understands the needs of that constituency. As the executive director of Hospice of the Valley, she has described their work as that of a care organization "focused on bringing peace and understanding at the end of life."

Markey's compassion and commitment to excellence is on display whether she's at the hospice, considering Town Council legislation or providing leadership to the local Rotary.

SNOWMASS VILLAGE PROPERTY MANAGERS

Decades worth of property management experience were on-hand at the PTRAB board meeting in January when Doug Faurer, Mary Harris and Jerome Simecek spoke about the travel industry and local lodging.

As PTRAB Board Chair Greer Fox pointed out, property management people are often the main local connection to part-time residents.

The board had a few questions for the group: Were people waiting longer to book trips in hopes of getting a deal? Doug Faurer pointed out that great snow made all the difference in the world in terms of bookings, and that they did have a lot of last minute bookings over this year's Christmas/New Year's holidays. Are fewer Snowmass condo owners renting their properties? Mary Harris believes the numbers are the same as she's traditionally seen during her 25 years of experience.

Board Chair Greer Fox asked the three property managers to consider how they could assist in linking the PTRAB with part-time residents at their properties. The managers offered to forward PTRAB communications, such as this newsletter, to their clients, the majority of whom are part-time residents.

SMALL BUSINESS PANEL

Most part-time residents are very concerned with retaining locally owned businesses in Snowmass Village. Four small business owners – Marty Swanson (Fuel), Sandy Francis (Bright and Shiny Things), Madeleine Osberger (Snowmass Sun) and Reed Lewis (Grain/Daly Liquor) – offered their opinions on what the local business climate is like, and what issues they face to stay in business

during these tough times.

For the three retail owners, this season has been tough because of the overall economic climate. And what little business there is this winter season is now being shared with the new businesses in Base Village. The town's comprehensive plan promotes the development of three commercial nodes: the Snowmass Mall, the Snowmass Center and Base Village.

The business owners questioned whether or not the Skittles lift is adequate for shoppers and diners to be able to move freely between the Mall and Base Village, and they offered their opinion that the Mall could be enlivened with a new destination restaurant and increased outside seating for summer.

How important are part-time residents to the small business owners in Snowmass Village? Sandy Francis noted that her business is "not high-end, and needs constant sales, with 90% being returnees."

February PTRAB Meeting - Show me the Money!

TOSV Manager Russ Forrest and Finance Director Marianne Rakowski were guests at the February 9 conference call. The overarching emphasis of their remarks was the fiscally conservative stance the town has taken during this unprecedented economic downturn.

Rakowski reviewed the Town's fund structure for the Board, indicating where income shortfalls were anticipated; implications for the town budget were shown in a series of budget scenarios where 5%, 10%, and 20% cuts were contemplated or already enacted. As an example of the kinds of strategic budget cuts the town has implemented, the PTRAB budget was cut by 80% for the current fiscal year.

In response to PTRAB questions, Forrest assured the Board that the TOSV goal was to enact minimal cuts in services such that a high level of service could be maintained throughout the season, as is appropriate to a resort economy. Moreover, Rakowski and Forrest emphasized that their lean-budgeting approach has left the town's contingency funds untouched for now in anticipation that the town can weather the seasonal downturn in competitive shape.

PTRAB member George Bletsas complimented Russ and Marianne on their acumen in maintaining the economic vitality of the town through their tough but fair oversight of all town expenses and their conservative approach to expenditures of town funds.

Marketing Snowmass is March Presentation to PTRAB

"Bring Your Skis to Snowmass, Colorado where a wide variety of terrain will keep every member in the family happy..." is one of a dozen advertising "stories" developed to market Snowmass this winter by the Snowmass Tourism Office.

The focus of the March 9, 2009 PTRAB board meeting was a marketing presentation by Director of Tourism Susan Hamley and staff and by members of the Marketing, Special Events and Group

Sales Board.

Susan's colorful power-point presentation can be viewed on the PTRAB homepage at www.tosv.com under Boards and Commissions.

Susan reported good and bad news: Bookings and sales tax numbers are down. But overall, Snowmass and Aspen/Snowmass have had healthier numbers than most other North American ski resorts. She emphasized the importance of group sales and conference bookings. The uncertainty the past few years over the Snowmass Conference Center has impeded near-term and some future bookings. The town is working with Related WestPac to ensure that the Silvertree Hotel, the Wildwood Hotel and the Conference Center will be made available for group bookings through at least 2013. As we go to press there is word that this commitment will be given to the Town.

Part-time residents were asked to help the town by letting Susan and the Marketing Department know about organizations and professional groups who might find Snowmass an attractive conference site. In addition to our past conference facilities throughout town, new conference facilities have recently opened in Base Village at Capitol Peak Lodge.

Mel Blumenthal ended the meeting with an update on the recent leadership change at Related WestPac. Pat Smith and the other officers of the company have been responsive to the PTRAB board in the past and the board anticipates continued cooperation from Dwayne Romero and the other principals. The board will invite Romero as a guest in an upcoming PTRAB meeting.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Now Required in Snowmass Village

Town Council Begins Review of Targeted Update to Comprehensive Plan

Two issues of importance to part-time residents before the Snowmass Village Town Council in March are new local legislation requiring carbon monoxide detectors and Town Council review of the targeted update of the Town of Snowmass Village's Comprehensive Plan which was recently completed by the Planning Commission.

The new town ordinance requires carbon monoxide detectors to be installed within earshot of all bedrooms and at least one on every floor of all new and existing residences that utilize fossil fuels. The new legislation becomes effective April 1 and all property owners have six months to comply. For all other additional Ordinance details check the Town's website www.tosv.com.

Over several Town Council meetings this spring, chapters and recommendations regarding the Comp Plan Update will be reviewed and discussed. The three subject areas receiving the greatest attention include the Built Environment, Transportation and Housing.

You can follow Town Council's discussion on the town's website: www.tosv.com under Official Business/Town Council and Council Meetings.

