



Donner Summit Association (DSA) Core Action Team Meeting
Thursday, February 20, 2025 5-6 PM
In-person meeting in the Snowshed Room at Village Hall, Sugar Bowl



Village Hall, Sugar Bowl (DSCN7590.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 5:02 PM by Pat Malberg. Chris Parker set up a Zoom connection.

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), Lindsay Romack (Placer County, by Zoom)

2. Approval of the Agenda:

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

3. Approval of Minutes from the January Meeting:

MSC-U (Dick, Elissa) to approve the January meeting minutes.

4. Financial Report (Tom):

Tom distributed a summary financial report before the meeting. January was another quiet month. There were \$700 in donations, including a \$500 donation from Tom's brother.

DSA had unspent funds in an account set up by Placer County for a project that has since been completed. The County asked about disposition of the remaining funds, and we have returned them.

Dick asked about billing from NextPixels for the web site transition; only \$30 was shown in the January report. Tom said an invoice for about \$1700 will show up in the February report.

5. County Reports:

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

Bill provided Pat with notes from the Convene, Champion, and Catalyze (CCC) meeting on February 5. CCC is a leadership forum for sustainable Truckee. Bill, Pat, and Chris are members, but only Bill was able to attend. Bill learned that Nevada County will have two marijuana dispensaries; one will be in Soda Springs. Also discussed were attempts to get better travel on Donner Pass Road and I-80. Pat wondered whether DSA should include a separate CCC report in each agenda; both groups meet monthly, and CCC seems to touch topics that are of importance to The Summit. **Dick will add a CCC report to the next agenda.**

Placer: Lindsay Romack reported by Zoom. An item on the next Board of Supervisors (BoS) agenda (March 4) is a report from staff on the County's Housing Action Plan, which should be of interest to people at Donner Summit. Staff will take feedback from Supervisors and return a revised Plan; the final is expected to be adopted at the BoS meeting in May. The March 4 agenda will be posted at [https://www.placer.ca.gov/10065/ 2025](https://www.placer.ca.gov/10065/2025) at least 72 hours before the meeting. Lindsay said the County is working to enable remote comments from its Tahoe City office in time for the March meeting.

Staff at the Community Development Resource Agency are working on the County's 2050 General Plan. To obtain community input, there will be workshops and surveys. One workshop will be in Kings Beach on April 30

starting at 5 PM (jointly with the Discover and Discuss event; see next paragraph). Two virtual workshops are scheduled — one on February 26 starting at 6 PM and another on April 5 starting at 10 AM. To learn more about the workshops and the Plan itself, go to <http://www.Placer2050.com>.

The Discover and Discuss event at the North Tahoe Event Center in Kings Beach will be 5-7:30 PM. Format will be in-person “open house” with stations where County staff and partners will answer questions and receive feedback on programs and other topics. Food, child care, and Spanish translation will be available.

Pat said the most recent Donner Summit Municipal Advisory Committee meeting drew very few people. Meetings are difficult to schedule, and she wondered whether they should be continued. Lindsay said there may be more virtual “town hall” meetings. Supervisor Gustafson held such a meeting last week; she was aware that there would be some scheduling changes. Town halls provide opportunities for community members to express opinions; but no votes are scheduled, so there are no Brown Act complications.

6. Ongoing Projects

Historic Sites, Plaques, etc.: Bill said three different groups are making plans to commemorate three different aspects of the Summit railroad tunnels. The 1882 Foundation succeeded in obtaining National Historic Landmark designation for Summit Camp, where (mostly) Chinese laborers lived during tunnel construction. The National Railroad Historical Society has prepared a plaque that Bill thinks should go on the exposed part of the vertical shaft over the middle of Tunnel 6. The American Society of Civil Engineers wants to mark the anniversary of completion of the Transcontinental Railroad (May 10). Each group is thinking about a ceremony in a different location on a different date; there could be advantages to combining these activities. Ted Gong has called a meeting in Sacramento tomorrow to discuss 1882 Foundation plans. **Pat will attend and will try to broaden the discussion to include coordination.** A combined event might draw more attention. Suggestions included publicity in *Sierra Sun* and *Moonshine Ink*, public service announcements on KTKL (101.5 MHz radio), county newsletters, and music from a band and/or choral group.

West Van Norden Planning: Nothing new.

Gould Park: There will be another virtual meeting of the ad hoc Gould Park committee on February 25. Pat distributed copies of sketches developed during the last meeting. Jordan Knighton imagines the artists’ corner to be a platform, possibly with multiple levels between Hampshire Rocks Road and the South Yuba River. Plans for expanded parking on the north side of the

river have been shelved since they conflict with permissions granted during original park development in 2004. Trying to override those permissions would require new studies and permits (and significant additional costs). The bicycle repair station would be adjacent to the existing vault toilet and paved parking. Non-cycling visitors would be expected to walk to the north side on an existing Cisco Road sidewalk that has fallen into disrepair (repair should be made by Placer County Public Works and would not be part of this project). There could be walking trails on the north side with small signs to aid navigation. If the design presented on February 25 appears to be satisfactory, DSA will present those results to Placer County Parks for review. At some point, it would be desirable to have a meeting with Gould Park neighbors to discuss the plans and receive feedback. **Beth will compile a list of local property owners so we can contact them at an appropriate time.**

7. Computers and Web Site

Long-Term Digital Storage: Tom has obtained access to the DSA Microsoft Office system and has asked about creating folders that can be shared — how to do it and what levels of sharing are appropriate. Mike suggested that most sharing could be among the six DSA license holders but that the check register might be restricted to Tom and Beth. In the meantime, Pat has successfully accessed the system. She was puzzled to find that Microsoft seemed to know about all of her personal folders and files; this may need a separate set of solutions. Possibly related to Pat's discovery, Tom, Mike, and Dick each have at least two accounts with Microsoft and keeping the DSA business separate from the other accounts has been a little tricky. **Tom, Mike, and Dick will try to sort this out.** Mike's time is limited for the next 2-3 months, but he can do simple troubleshooting.

Switch Web Site to WordPress: Dick said that Jeannie and Forrest (at NextPixels) have made good progress on transferring the existing web pages to a platform that uses WordPress; the expectation is that the WordPress version should be live by this time next month. The SquareSpace auto-renew has been canceled; our subscription there will end on March 31. Board members were given a link to the new staging area, but Dick has not received any feedback from people who have tested it. He has found a few bugs, but they have been minor and were quickly fixed by the NextPixels team. The DSA Store still needs to be added; Jeannie and Beth are working on that.

Jeannie has questioned references to “membership” in DSA on the existing web pages. After discussion, it was agreed that we have never had “members” and that visitors should be encouraged to support DSA, including through donations, but that the concept of “member” should be removed. Dick noted that there are other content issues that need to be corrected and/or updated; this will be done after the transition has been completed.

8. Internal Matters

Future Meetings: Janet Tuttle has offered to host the March 20 DSA meeting at Donner Ski Ranch.

9. Announcements:

Beth received a thank you card from Truckee Donner Land Trust for support during the past year. The card included a very nice photo of Rainbow Bridge.

Pat passed around a pair of photos from 1948-49 when she was skiing at Sugar Bowl.

10. Adjournment:

There being no other business, Pat adjourned the meeting at 5:52 PM.

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

signed by DSA Secretary, Richard Simpson, _____



Gathering for the meeting in the Snowshed Room (DSCN7951.JPG).