

Summary – Suissevale Survey

Shed and Beach Parking

Background and Method

Suissevale is a community on Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire comprised of 426 homeowners and 120 landowners with common property amenities which include tennis courts, clubhouse, marina, playground, beach, kayak/canoe racks. Suissevale roads and water system are private and overseen by the Board of Directors.

For one week in March 2020 respondents took an online survey asking whether they wanted a shed to store a tractor placed near the beach and extra beach parking. The survey was taken online via the LoveSuissevale website, the Facebook Group and by email to about 250 recipients. About 135 responses were compiled.

Conclusions and Key Findings

Placing a shed by the parking lot:

Nearly 65% of respondents disliked placing a shed for a tractor near the beach parking area.

There were 12 % who had no opinion. The major two reasons given by over 75% of the respondents disliking were that a shed would “disrupt the view” and would “take up valuable space”. There were 67% who felt that adding a shed would be an unnecessary expense.

Shed Comments:

A sample of their comments are as follows:

...“a shed is unnecessary and this one sounds HUGE!”

...“Could be unattractive”

...“Is this part of the 5 year beautification plan? To put a commercial building on our waterfront? What’s next? A full service gas station?”

...“it is not a shed. It’s a garage!”

...“It’s just plain stupid.”

...“It’s too crowded, they need to accommodate for parking first before thinking of building anything.”

...“More kayak racks are needed.”

...“No membership input.”

...“Not a dire need. Other alternatives are available.”

...“That shed sounds way too big.”

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...“the tractor was supposed to save money not cost more and more.”

...Totally inappropriate near water. Tuck way back away from water.”

...“What happened to being placed over in the Marina area where there is more room? I believe because too many BOD members are also slip holders.”

...“Why not build it by the club house and drive it down to the beach if a shed is really needed.”

...“Will change the landscape if on the waterfront. We don’t have enough parking as it is. Make room for vehicles. They also talked about removing bushes by the fence. They are beautiful in the Fall.”

...Will gasoline and other combustibles be stored in the garage?”

Making additional parking spaces in the current parking area:

There were 62% of respondents who favored making additional parking available in the current parking area. However, nearly 30% were opposed to more parking. Of those who disliked more parking nearly 70% felt there were too many renters using current parking spaces. Many of these respondents also felt that additional parking takes up valuable recreation space and that there is already enough space allocated for parking.

Additional Parking Comments:

A sample of their comments are as follows:

...“allow golf carts. MUST have valid drivers license.”

...“Beach area is already too crowded.”

...“If we changed the hanging tag to stickers it would help. Renters are abusing the hanging tags. Change process to each home gets 2 beach stickers for cars and eliminate hanging tags”

...“limit parked cars to one per household.”

...“No membership input.”

...“the beach is already overcrowded and putting in more spaces will just make it worse.”

...“There’s definitely no room for any more cars, especially big trucks.”

...“We should be able to use golf carts in order to create more space instead of taking up valuable greenspace.”

...“why not allow street ready golf carts which will make more room for parking, less noise on the roads, less wear on the roads, more environmentally friendly and easier to track as each cart could be numbered to match the lot”