

Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

To Gustavus City Council,

I'm asking City Clerk Lisa Backer to read this into record.

I've given considerable thought to last Council work session. I do not attend public meetings as a general rule, but have tried to keep up some by using the "Zoom" option.

As most of you know, I have lived most of my 71 yrs. in Gustavus. I've seen so many changes - good & bad.

Out of interest in the changes around me, I've often written letters of concern, or suggestions on ways of making our little town a more welcoming & pleasant place.

I will openly admit I was opposed to DeBeer getting accreted land, but was glad we were able to continue using as we had while growing up here.

I was thrilled to see Morgan DeBeer create such a well thought out, and beautiful golf course. He also still allowed hikers to enjoy the area. It was very sad to not only lose Morgan, but also to have golf course become only a memory.

I'm having some concerns over the recently formed Conservancy Committee. Originally I was under impression they were going to chart all the conservancy lands, and be only a short-lived committee. No problem there - I spent time on "Parks & Rec" and "Beach" committees myself.



However is it coincidental that they have now become involved in DeBoer private lands, and what that future should look like?

Somehow it appears they have become the channel to apply for Endowment Fund \$\$\$, to help SEALT out of Juneau. It was my understanding that Endowment Fund \$\$\$ were intended for helping folks in Gustavus. The money was from NPS after they forced the fisherman out of the Glacier Bay waters.

How can it be ethical to have a committee here in Gustavus, request \$\$\$ for a Juneau based group to give to DeBoers? Sounds like extract \$\$\$ for the large parcel of land here. Jim feeling there is at least an appearance of impropriety. Perhaps a way of keeping DeBoers from pursuing any other interests in their land.

We have so much going on right now, seems more important to deal with potential Hoonah Borough. We already have NPS on 3 sides, thousands of acres already set aside for Nature Conservancy, Gustavus Forelands Preserve, Dudo Creek Crane Flats, Nagoonberry trail, etc.

True I'm unable to get out and hike as I used to, due to mobility issues, but this is still my home. Yet it is becoming confining and even stifling at times.

Thank you best for reading this for me...

Sylvia Pederson