October 2021

Dear DHBA members,

Thanks to those of you who responded to the kayak, bike, dinghy, crab pot survey. Thirty memberships responded, thus 75% of membership shares. Below is a summary of the results. Based on these results, the Chaos Committee plans to pursue a small pilot project related to dinghy sharing, and explore the similar potential for kayak and canoe sharing. You can expect to hear more about a dinghy sharing program during this Autumn and Winter.

Dinghy Sharing Program (DSP): A majority of respondents, 80%, would be willing to participate in a DSP. Their motivations, expressed in answers to question 8, were in keeping with those we have discussed as the Chaos committee.

60% of all respondents currently own a dinghy stored on the beach, and of those, 55.6% would be willing to donate that dinghy to the DSP. Of dinghy owners unwilling to donate their dinghy to a DSP, 87.5% would not be willing to store their dinghy at the tennis courts, mostly citing hardship of retrieving their dinghy for use.

Among the 20% of total respondents who were unwilling to participate in a DSP, the stated concerns included fear that the boats/oars would not be cleaned and well maintained, that the size/quality of a dinghy assigned to one party might not match-up well to that party’s desired use or group size for the dinghy (e.g., crabbing v. fishing v. sight-seeing; big family v. small family), program costs, caregiver burden, and the slippery slope tendencies of rule-making in general (e.g., soon limiting where a particular dinghy can travel, age restrictions on riding).

Kayak/Canoe Storage & Sharing Program: 86.7% of all respondents predicted they would use a well-maintained kayak/canoe yearly were it available to them without extra cost, dropping to 80% were a $15 usage fee per visit imposed. In both scenarios (no usage fee, usage fee), the majority of respondents who predicted use predicted 2+ days of use / year. 73.3% of respondents do not currently own one of the kayaks on the Head.

Among the 13.3% of total respondents who would not participate in a kayak/canoe sharing program, 20% were decidedly against it, 38.5% favored it so long as the costs aren’t passed along to them, 23.1% favored it outright, and 15.4% were uncertain how they feel about it. Of the respondents decidedly against it, one cited storage and policing issues, the other described themself as an owner of 3 of the kayaks and wanted to continue to loan them out on an individual basis. Among uncertain respondents, concerns included Association liability, safety of novice kayakers in dangerous currents, and the logistics of transfer of ownership of current kayaks.

Bicycle Storage & Sharing Program: The majority of respondents, 53.3% did not favor the proposal. The remainder favored it or favored it with tweaks. 80% of all respondents issued comments. The negative comments mostly centered on fear that bikes would rust, not be removed, and become unattractive clutter at the tennis courts. The positive comments mostly centered on convenience despite the rust.

Crab/Shrimp Pot Storage and Sharing Program: 96.7% of respondents support limiting the number of crab/shrimp pots that can be stored per membership. Currently, 77% of respondents store 1-2 crab and/or shrimp pots on the Head, and 96.7% of respondents are currently sharing crab/shrimp pots with another member.