



The PIPOA Elephant

A common theme in many of the questions at the recent PIPOA Candidate Forum had to do with perceived value of the PIPOA, especially to those not on the water. It is a question that has been asked for years, with few answers.

After the meeting, I was thinking, how exactly do we show value? We are a large organization with a very diverse set of Members who have differing expectations. We are an association of waterfront and dry lot, of single family, multi-family and commercial properties. Yes, you and your neighbors are Members of the PIPOA, but the Donut Shop and the Circle K are Members as well.

Is it any wonder that a consensus of value is hard to reach with so many different wants and needs? There is no one single solution to this problem.

But just because it is hard, does not mean we should not try. Then I remembered that adage “How do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time”. So, let’s start with one possible solution.

Last June I made a Facebook post that introduced a concept I called the “Fun Fund”.

I propose the PIPOA adopt an annual “Fun Fund” budget item of \$50,000 which is about 2% of our annual CAM collections. Prior to the Annual Meeting, “Fun Fund” project suggestions are taken from the Members. And these suggestions can be presented to the Members at the Annual Meeting for a vote. Then the winning project gets built.

The Billish improvements have made a world of difference in that park, it is full of families now. I know there are many other locations in our community that could also stand some attention. I think a yearly “Fun Fund” project would make a big improvement in our community and hopefully increase perceived value.

Members have the right to demand value from the PIPOA. This is one possible way to solve the problem. I welcome your thoughts.

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