Debra Thompson

From:

Dennis Rogers <captain@yachtalaska.com>

Sent:

Monday, May 11, 2020 8:05 AM

To:

Assembly

Cc:

petersburgedc@gmail.com

Subject:

Local visitor business

Greeting Petersburg Borough Assembly members,

As owner of a local charter operation Alaska Sea Adventures, I wanted to convey details of our situation to Assembly members.

Due to the arrival of the COVID-19 virus safety measures, we were unable to perform our five scheduled spring charters which resulted in a large loss to not only our business but those local support businesses. With the 14 day quarantine in effect we are possibly faced with the loss of our entire summer charter season. There are a number of other local charter and lodge operations faced with the same situation.

As we move closer to summer, it has become difficult for us to plan how the summer COVID-19 mandates will effect our ability to operate. Our summer season is fully booked with our clients awaiting whether they will be able to visit Petersburg without a required 14 day quarantine. Alaska Airlines which brings all of our clients to Petersburg has graciously beed offering a no fee cancellation or rebooking for many of their flight reservations. This AK Air offer will end on May 31st which will likely force some of our clients to cancel their reservations with us if the 14 day quarantine is still in effect or there is not a date set for it to expire before summer.

We do not plan to resume summer charters until June 27th, 2020. We felt it important to advise the Assembly members of our particular situation for consideration in discussion during future workshop meetings. Petersburg small locally owned visitor businesses contribute much to the local economy through spending at hotels, restaurants, grocery stores and retail stores a well as car rental and air taxi flights. Many of the other local lodges and charters are in the same situation.

Alaska Sea Adventures crew on Northern Song have been in Petersburg since at least early March before the COVID-19 virus became a pandemic. Our charters are for groups of 8 persons just to share some of the dynamics of our particular operation.

I am always will to answer questions and glad to participate in discussion to plan for Petersburg's best interest in safety and economics. Call or email me anytime.

Cheers, Dennis 518-0505

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