

HMC Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2020

Call to Order & Welcome - Reed West, President

Introduction of Board Members/Roll Call – Reed West, Chet Latimer, Kathy Deuster, Merry Kogut, and Ferd Reichlin; Jane Wooster, Island Manager; introduced Carolyn Snyder & Carol Miller, who work in the HMC office.

Motion was made and approved unanimously to suspend the traditional agenda and adopt one in which membership input would be made after the committee reports.

Treasurer's Report and Bills of the Association. Ferd Reichlin, Treasurer. Finance committee is going to meet in about two weeks and work on 2020 – 2021 budget. Motion made to pay bills; approved (Merry abstained).

Minutes from December 2019 Board Meeting, Merry Kogut, Secretary. Motion made to accept; approved unanimously.

Communications/correspondence: Merry. No submissions to Member Input. The HMC Office received the following three pieces of correspondence:

1. Notice from ESD regarding 2020 tax rate;
2. Notice regarding “security incident” with the Pierce County Tax Online Statements; and
3. Notice from L & I: Rate change for 2020

Island Manager Report – Jane Wooster went over her Island Manager's report. She added that with wind the way it is, ferry captains may decide to put fewer vehicles on the ferry and shuttle.

Committee Reports:

- **Maintenance** (Gary Wanzong): No report
- **Parks** (Dale Miller): No report
- **Policies** (Mike Gage): No report
- **Roads** (Dan Marten): Dan called in a report to Jane. He thanked all who worked on the culvert flooding and clean out on Maple Road – Andy Anderson, Bob Clark, and Jack Wells.
- **Emergency Preparedness/Mainland Security** (Ken Higgins): No report. Ken posted some emergency preparedness tips on the Herron Island Facebook page.
- **Water** (Frank Harrison): No report. Charles Smith is out on leave. Please contact Jane Wooster in the office at 253-884-9350 for immediate needs.
- **Rules** (Beth Owen): No report; Rules hearing at 3:00 p.m. today

- **Small Boat Docks:** Alan DeGood will continue as Chair. Small Boat Docks will be reinstalled on Saturday, April 11th. There will be work party dates prior to that for painting/maintaining.

Legal Liaison: There are 30 delinquencies; some are under \$200; 10 are with our attorney for action.

Old Business:

- Ferry Loading/Herron Road – As previously reported, neighborhood members on the mainland complained to the county and we're trying to work out a solution. We encourage you to pull as close together as possible; don't open doors, congregate on the road, etc; be as good neighbors as we can be. We need to show good faith so the neighborhood isn't constantly complaining.
- ATV policy research & update – Laurie West has been working on the committee addressing issues, along with others. Compiling information to make presentation to the Board. Laurie – group will meet after Board meeting next month. Example of what the committee is discussing – under state law, golf carts can only be driven by people 16 old and licensed – do we want to put that into our Rules? Reed – don't know if we've ever taken a comprehensive look at these issues.

New Business:

- 2020--2021 Budget – Finance Committee will meet soon; we really appreciate what they're doing. We're going to try and communicate to HMC Members earlier this year. We want to make sure that people feel informed when it's time to vote – goal is to make sure people know what's going on and what's being proposed.
- Ferry Ramp Motors & HMC Maintenance – We've had six ferry outages in the last 18 months related to ramp motors. Board is going to study this issue, take a hard look, and see if there's anything we can do differently to minimize the problem. We're going to be talking with Gary Wanzong, people in the industry, may call in a consultant; etc. Sherri A. – is there something ferry crew can do to override the system? Jane W – there are multiple things that happen there. We have spare motors, but the last problem was a brake problem. Sherry A/Mike S discussed not clicking the remote/motor on and off repeatedly. Reed – bottom line is that it's breaking too often and we need to figure it out. Jim D – every time you rebuild the motor it loses power. In Navy rebuild once or twice and then buy a new one. Make sure you buy the highest grade marine power you can get.
- Cooperation with ferry crew—Jane addressed. Ongoing problems – intoxication, berating the crew – we can't have this. You have to be nice to them; they're working hard, in difficult conditions; trying the best they can. Berating them, cursing – it's not appropriate. If there is something wrong, take notes, then tell the office. It makes it harder to attract and retain good crew members. You have to be respectful. Audience

members stated that respect has to go both ways. A lengthy discussion ensued, with some audience members arguing against cutting off loading five minutes before the scheduled departure time. Reed pointed out that planes and state ferries leave on schedule. We can have rare exceptions, but there are people who abuse things now.

Boosters Report and Announcements – Leslie – Potluck/meeting tonight. Elections tonight.

Beachcomber: Deadline for articles to be published is Wednesday, 1/15

Membership Input: Mike S – when ferry goes to the yard, we can't have them fix everything because they charge double. Jane W – looking at last two weeks of September for drydock but date hasn't been set yet. Jim D - Loading policy has changed. Has anyone checked on accidents – no accidents in two years except for the WaveRunner. Joyce – she got hit on ferry – we need to track incidents like that. Jane – we do track all incidents. Paula T – happy that we're going to do research on the motor problems. One comment she heard is that we're being taken advantage of in terms of overtime and etc. Jane W – there are records about what has happened, what the recommendations are, etc. There are bills. There is a huge lack of process/procedure she's trying to address. Jane would like to sit down with anyone with information. Reed – a year or two ago when we had the outsourcing vote, we talked about outsourcing the maintenance. It can be looked at – is there a consultant who can help us?

Sherri A – can her husband submit reimbursement request for diesel that was used in fixing the road? It'd be about \$25. Dana C – last year when Sam did the whole island – can we reimburse someone who volunteers and uses a lot of fuel – reimburse for fuel, or give them tickets or something? He did what he did out of the goodness of his heart – in the future can we have some petty cash available to reimburse people for fuel? Merry – when possible, she'd prefer charges be preapproved. Carolyn A – talk of snow. Last year Sam came in with a list of things we could do better; list of 12 – 15 items. Dana C – thank you for all the limbs that have been cut. Sherri A – financial reports; knows that Merry abstained. Merry – it's an ongoing concern with me to get and study the financial reports in a timely manner. Sherri A – Carolyn S is always under the gun. Jane W – we've looked at it, will talk with Gary. Sherri A – a cutoff is a cutoff; you get used to it; it's a point in time. Jane can review with Carolyn and talk with the Board about it. Laurie W – difference between bills and an audit. Chet – last night he sent Carolyn some concerns and he got a report from Carolyn this morning. Paula – I agree with Merry that it'd be good to have more time to look at the financial reports.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Reed adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.