

Island Manager Report
June 11, 2016

Administration.

Volunteers:

Virginia Major, Linda Kelly, Jane Morgan, Mike & Judy Gage, Pat Zazzo and Karl Schafer -helping with the ballot envelope stuffing.

Pat Zazzo – tansy exterminator!

Mike & Judy Gage – white boards.

Mike Shettlesworth – moving the fire truck, flags at North Beach, and putting out the Community Building trash cans each week.

Fred Fath – tirelessly working on our technology issues – water billing, and ferry passenger fare system.

Volunteer dust truck drivers – Jack Wells, Dan Morgan, Andy Thompson, Nick Huff, Mike Shettlesworth, Kevin Kircher, John Farris, Gary Antonson, Beth Wanzong and Sam Argo

Roads, Water, Parks, Transportation, Emergency Preparedness Committee members – thank you!

Tansy: It's time to pull tansy from your property, so that this noxious weed's spread is reduced. Don't try to compost it. Bag it and toss it in the trash. The following recipe for a weed killer that is not toxic to the environment was provided by a Member:

Weed Killer Recipe

A gallon of white vinegar

2 Cups of Epson Salt

1/4 Cup of Dawn Dishsoap

The tansy inspector will be out to the island after July 4 weekend. The inspection team has asked for the names of anyone who would be willing to work to pull tansy, if owners need to hire help. Please let the office know if you are available for hire.

Insurance: We've invited our insurance broker to make a visit to the island and review the improvements in marine infrastructure, water system and parks that have occurred since their last visit in 2010. They will visit on June 28 and tour the island, leaving, I hope, with a good impression of the island's condition that will help extend our low premiums.

Trees: Many HMC trees that were diseased, dead or presented a hazard were removed from HMC roadway easements June 6 and 7. Another round of tree removal is planned for the fall.

Water Operations: Charles Smith will report. Hydrant flushing is underway.

Water Committee Report: Charles Smith will report for the committee.

Fire Department Liaison: Fire Chief Guy Allen will speak at the July board meeting regarding the upcoming fire district levy election, and will address questions about volunteer fire service.

Emergency Preparedness: Mike Shettlesworth will report. We have discussed preparing an emergency information card that would go in the new member packet, reminding Members that in an emergency they should call 911, and providing other tips on emergency response.

Parks: Committee Report. Two new picnic tables are on the way to replace those that are deteriorating. Two damaged tables have been removed from the pavilion. At the May meeting, the Board decided to replace two tables each year, until all are replaced.

Vandals have removed keeper pins from small boat docks, but they have been replaced. Swim float buoy markers and no wake buoy need to be put out yet. Missing pile caps also need to be replaced from the supply in the Booster shed.

Roads: Committee Report.

Jack Wells will report for the committee. Additional barriers need to be in place at the corner of East Herron & Maple; the committee is checking the availability of recycled guard rails or other barriers for use on the corner.

Road grading will happen Monday, June 20. Members are urged to clean the ditches in front of their properties to help the grading be successful.

The Roads Committee is proposing a roads work party for Saturday, June 18. The work party would focus on weed eating in the HMC ditches alongside the roads and around the 40-plus fire hydrants. Fresh white center line and temporary parking yellow lines need painting. Additional work will be done inside the pump station, clearing out weeds and painting the interior of the old reservoir. Gather at the Community Center at 9 a.m., bring gloves, and weed eaters.

Rules: No outstanding rules complaints.

Herron Island Ferry:

Fall Ferry Inspection: We recently learned that the Vigor shipyard in Tacoma will not be available to us this fall for the ferry's biennial out of water inspection. John Farris has been researching our options and is retrieving our records from the Vigor shipyard while checking into other options for the haul out. So it is too early to speculate when the ferry will be out of service.

Vandalism at the Dock: Shortly after the May meeting, vandals broke lights on the mainland side gantry, and cut the mooring lines at the dock. They also left spent cartridges on the dock, though no one reported hearing gunshots at night. Images of the perpetrators were picked up on the parking lot video and shared with the Sheriff's Office. The ferry crew had immediately called the Sheriff to file a report. Later in the day we learned that the vandals had committed other acts up and down the Peninsula, and were in custody.

Dolphin Replacement Project: The "60%" plans have been received and reviewed. The "90%" plans should be completed by June 10. So far the engineering project is on schedule, and bid ready documents due for completion July 8. The following permit applications have also been or will be submitted:

- Shoreline Environmental Protection Act (SEPA) (completed, exemption received)
- Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (rivers and harbors, clean water, endangered species, fish and wildlife, NOAA)
- Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) from WDFW (after SEPA)
- Washington Department of Ecology (water quality, shorelines)
- Pierce County Shoreline Substantial Development Permit
- Pierce County Demolition Permit
- Pierce County Building Permit

Most permit approvals are anticipated by July 15; the remainder will be submitted later in the process.

If the membership approves borrowing to fund the construction project, the schedule would be as follows:

- Advertise for Bids – July 22, 2016
- Bid Opening – September 2, 2016
- Contracts Signed – September 10, 2016

- Site Construction – December 2016 – January 2017

Also, after the vote, (if approved) we will apply for Interim Financing and complete the USDA contracting process. Actual construction should occur with minimal to no disruption of the regular ferry schedule. We are currently negotiating with USDA regarding loan security and the amount of the loan. The “letter of conditions”, or final commitment, should be on its way to us within a few days.

Ferry Crew: Happy to say that Donnie Surratt is back at work! After a year in which 75% of the permanent ferry crew were on some sort of medical leave for part of the year, it’s a relief to have all of them back at work.

We haven’t had much luck in recruiting additional deck hands this past month. The more frequent reason we are hearing that standby captains and deck hands resign or apply is the requirement that a standby crew member from off island must spend two nights on the island to work one full shift. There is no easy answer to this problem, as the ferry will always tie up on the island side.

Ferry Schedule: Low Tide Cancellations are posted on the website. July 4 weekend presents a special challenge this year, with low tide cancellations July 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Anyone planning on coming over that holiday weekend would be well advised to plan ahead.

Transportation Committee: No report.

Technology: No report.

Legal Liaison: We currently have 16 delinquencies, 5 of which are with the attorney for collections. Three delinquencies are in amounts of less than \$200. Delinquency rate of 4.2%. Last year at this time we had 15 delinquencies. Currently, HMC has 383 Assessable Units and 397 Water customers.