

Island Manager Report
August 10, 2013

Administration:

Volunteers: Thanks to all those who have assisted during this hot, dry period, indoors and out. Those Roads volunteers – here they are.

- Jack Wells, Chairman, Road Committee;
- Dana Gruber, Roads Secretary, Steve Kramer, Roads Member
- Ferd & Karl Reichlin
- Jan O’Conner
- Scott Sloan
- Merry Kogut
- Don Greinke
- Mike Graham
- Ernie Shreve
- Don Kelly
- Tracy Anspach
- Terrill Chilson
- Pat Zazzo
- Richard Urfer
- Mike Shettlesworth
- Fred Richardson and Son in Law
- Kathy Deuster
- Kim Oo
- Eric Bergson
- Wally Semon
- Richard Evans
- Dallas Amidon
- Robin Kelly
- Janet Podell
- Bob Garcia
- John Farris
- Paula Trent
- Terry Kraft
- Mike Thynes

Courtesy: A Member complained recently that someone walking his dog allowed the dog to “dump” on the Member’s beach....a reminder is due that it is an island courtesy to allow visitors and owners to walk along the beaches which are privately owned, and walkers should show courtesy when they do so.

Thanks to BOOSTERS! A new storage shed has appeared outside the Community Building, for the storage of BOOSTERS materials, supplies and play equipment.

Found: A very nice Canon camera was found at North Beach and is being held at the office. If this belongs to you or one of your guests, please notify the office. Also, a multipurpose tool of the “Leatherman” variety (not brand) was found Thursday at the sport court. No one has appeared to claim it.

Tansy Removal: Most tansy has disappeared. There are a few remaining pockets, and in at least one case, the County has sent its tansy removal crew to pull out the infestation. The cost to the property owner will be about \$1000; whereas the tansy could have been sprayed earlier in the year for about \$225. The Noxious Weed Board will add the removal cost to the property owner’s tax bill; and also place a lien on his property.

Water Operations: Charles Smith, Water Distribution Manager, continues to follow up on Member requests for assistance with leaks and water pressure. This past month, a handful of Members who initially asked to have no meter installed have requested service. We try to satisfy these requests within 24-48 hours. Requests related to water service can be filed on a “Water Service Request Form” which can be found in the box outside the office, or on the HMC website, under Documents/Member Forms. Emails can be sent to the Water Department at HMCWater@herronisland.org .

Charles Smith has met with Tony Norris, the NWS certified operator, who will be our primary contact. We have set Monday, August 12, as the cutover date from WWSC to NWS. Hmcwater@herronisland.org is the initial point of contact for service requests, and the service request form is now on the website, under

Documents/MemberForms/Water Service Request Form. It can be filled in and faxed to HMC or dropped at the office.

So far we have been unable to dispose of the water parts inventory to WWSC, and are working on an alternative proposal. If anyone knows of a plumbing or construction company that might be interested in the inventory, please have them get in touch with HMC.

Meters were read on August 1st, which generated a second leak report. The meter program identifies addresses where water runs constantly for a 24 hour period, or usage seems exceptionally high. These owners will be notified so that they have an opportunity to correct the problem before billing for usage begins in late 2014. One area of high usage is North Beach, most likely for boat washing. Charles Smith will investigate the cause.

A hydrant wrench and hose nozzle have been requested for the fire hose at North Beach. We are researching what the proper type of nozzle would be, and how to store these appropriately so that they are available in the event of emergency.

Water System Project: HMC received a report from the County inspector and convened a meeting with the subcontractor, Caseco, and our project engineer. We reached resolution regarding disposal of dirt piles scattered around the island, and asked the engineer to follow up with the prime contractor, Massana. He is attempting to clarify with the County inspector whether our proposed plan of attack will satisfy the inspection report.

Fire Department Liaison: The fire district has notified us that they will again contract with Anderson Island for emergency service to Herron Island while the “Charlie Wells” is out of service in September. Reminder that the boat will leave for Tacoma on Sunday, September 15, for approximately two weeks.

Land Use: Merry Kogut has volunteered to chair this Committee! (Thanks, Merry!) Now, will volunteers please step forward to join the committee, which needs a few more members? The charter and mission statement are on the HMC website for those interested.

The Committee has proposed a revised Land Use Policy – Acquisition and Disposition of HMC Properties, which has been reviewed by the Board and Committee and is ready for action by the Board.

With assistance from Mark Anderson, we have received the title to the mainland property. In closing the USDA loan it came to our attention that we did not have clear title. The owners were aged, out of country and obtaining signatures required some perseverance. Additionally, we are pursuing the title to HMC property located at 705 West Yew Blvd, also missing.

Emergency Preparedness: Committee Report.

Parks: Committee Report below.

Roads: Committee Report.

American Disposal responded to last month’s request regarding routing and speed with an offer to change the route: *“Moving forward we will have both the garbage and recycling drivers enter East Herron Blvd via the south end of the road rather than the north end of the road. This should help alleviate the concerns about damage to the road. In addition, the supervisors have addressed the travelling speed of both drivers to make sure they are not exceeding the posted 15 limit. We will be utilizing our truck tracking system to monitor this and make sure both drivers are abiding by the posted speed limits at all times.”*

Speeding and scattering gravel into roadside ditches does not help the condition of the roads; and a proposal has been made to lower the speed limit to 10 mph. to reduce road damage and reduce dust. The Board is collecting Member input on this proposal. So far, 35 “yes”, 23 “no”.

Rules: The Rules Committee has met and reviewed the complaints. No outstanding complaints.

Herron Island Ferry: Sargent Engineers responded to the request to evaluate the weight of steel decking vs. timber piles. From a “weight only” analysis, replacement with steel is possible. Life expectancy of the ramps would very likely be extended up to perhaps a decade. Ramp painting and removal of timbers is planned for 2015, leaving time for additional exploration of this alternative, and its long term costs and/or benefits to HMC.

Applications are still open for deck hand positions. Some interviews have been scheduled for next week.

Legal Liaison: We currently have 23 delinquencies, of which 5 are with the attorney for action. One sizeable delinquency was paid in full in August. Delinquency rate of 5.8%. Last year at this time we had 11, with 7 at collections.