

## **Notes from Water Project Committee meeting:**

When: 3/22/11...12:45 to 2:30 PM

Where: Community Center

Attendees: Al Moren, Claudia Ellsworth, Steve Chapin, Mike Davis, Kathy Deuster

This was a transitional meeting to discuss the ballot results and to discuss the next steps to be taken while waiting for the USDA loan decision. Regarding the loan, Claudia talked to Bruce Whittle this AM and was in the process of providing final documents to complete the application. She says she has seen a draft of the "letter of commitment" from the USDA and will let us know as soon as we have approval. We are in contact with Key Bank (Rashan and Mike Ireland) for construction loan details.

What are our survey needs? Per Al: need GPC data from Aspen survey to save us some money, and provide this detail to NW Water.

When the project nears completion the WPC will be retired. The committee recommends that the new organization be called the "Herron Island Water Utility". A new committee called the "Herron Island Water Committee" would oversee this. This committee would report to the Board and would have a new Charter and Mission Statement.

We recommend to the Board retaining Northwest Water Systems as our project engineering firm to maintain continuity.

We also recommend to the Board that an outside firm manage the operation and maintenance of the new system. This firm will be selected from a list of available contractors who do business in our area. (An example would be Washington Water.)

During the installation we need to provide "outreach" to both the community and the contractor selected to do the project. We need to accelerate the email outreach program so that members can be alerted on a timely basis when their neighborhoods will be disrupted. We also need to provide a community liaison to the contractor to make sure our interests are properly maintained.

We need to explore options as to where to put the dirt that is removed from the trenching procedure. (There will be a lot of dirt and we would prefer not to pay to have it shipped off the island.) So, we need to alert members to let us know if they need fill dirt. We also need to explore places on HMC property where fill dirt might be needed.

For multiple lot owners we need to know how many meters are needed and where. This could be accomplished via telephone calls, or emails, to the appropriate owners.

**Next WPC meeting: To be determined...will follow USDA decision.**

Steve Chapin  
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