

HMC Board Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2020

Message from Jane Wooster – 27 people on Zoom meeting (later, 30)

Call to Order & Welcome - Reed West, President. Thank you for joining us. These are unique times. We have a wonderful tradition of having an in-person meeting. We're doing our best using technology. Please hold questions/comments until after the business meeting.

Introduction of Board Members/Roll Call – Reed West, Chet Latimer, Kathy Deuster, Merry Kogut, and Ferd Reichlin; Jane Wooster, Island Manager. Gary Wanzong, Maintenance. Robin Kelly, Boosters President.

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. Motion to move \$32,464.80 from Reserves to the HMC account to cover the cost of the cable replacement; approved unanimously [After meeting note: cables are replaced every five years]. Motion to pay bills for March and April; approved unanimously.

Minutes from February, 2020, Board Meeting, Merry Kogut, Secretary. Motion to accept; approved unanimously.

Communications/correspondence: Merry.

1. A Member contacted Member Input with a long email asking for changes to the ferry schedule, complaining about people taking "cuts," and reminding us about the Member's suggestion to install a mailbox at the island-side shed for guest passes to give the ferry crew.
2. A Member contacted the island manager complaining about loose dogs on South Beach, including Members' failure to clean up after their dogs and destruction of birds' eggs. The Member suggested a sign at the head of the South Beach trail.
3. A Member contacted the office suggesting that HMC use "Go-to-Meeting" for broadcasting/participating in meetings electronically.
4. Members contacted the Board and the Island Manager in response to an email the Board sent out asking that Members restrict their visits to and from Herron Island. One of the emails suggested that the ferry crew use an electronic system such as Venmo for ferry passage transactions.
5. A Member contacted the Board complaining that a contractor is continuing to perform work on the island, contrary to the Governor's prohibition against non-essential services, and is bringing workers over on the ferry.
6. A Member contacted Member Input suggesting that assessments be postponed.

7. A Member contacted Member Input with concerns that she heard the ferry schedule may be changed, asking that input be obtained from the membership before she is further isolated on the island.
8. A Member contacted Member Input asking about ferry usage and asking for input from members, and expressing the hope that if the schedule changes even temporarily it will still accommodate various needs.
9. A Member contacted the Board asking that the ferry low tide cancellations be posted on the website, and asking questions about an agenda item for the April 11th meeting.
10. Two Members contacted Member Input asking whether HMC will waive or postpone fees or fines.

Island Manager Report – Jane Wooster went over her Island Manager’s Report, which was published on the Herron Island website prior to the meeting.

Committee Reports:

- **Maintenance** (Gary Wanzong): 5HP motor on the island side. Motor was drawing at maximum rating; one of the reasons motors were failing. Brought out an electrical engineer who agreed. We think we now have a permanent fix to blowing out the motors.
- **Parks** (Dale Miller): May 16th tentatively planning a work party to clean up Goodpastor Park and Nature Parks.
- **Policies** (Mike Gage): No report
- **Roads** (Dan Marten): No report
- **Emergency Preparedness/Mainland Security** (Ken Higgins): Plan to meet with Anne Nesbit with Key Peninsula Fire Department to set up first aid training. Still hope to provide training for June and July. In March replaced cameras and video recorder on mainland. Ken will check recorder whenever he’s out here – thinks there’s 21 days of retention on the recorder.
- **Water** (Frank Harrison): No report
- **Rules** – HMC welcomes Mike Fassio as the new Chair
- **Small Boat Dock** (Alan DeGood): May 2nd and May 9th work parties are still scheduled; remains to be seen depending on Governor’s Stay at Home order.

Legal Liaison: There are 26 delinquencies; 12 are with our attorney for action.

Reed: Thanked Ken Higgins for working on the cameras.

Old Business:

- Island ramp motor – thanks to Gary and Jane for all their work on it. The 3 hp motor kept failing; we got a comprehensive report from a consulting engineer – upgraded to a

bigger motor from a smaller one; confident that this will fix the problem. Pulled together to address these problems. Hopeful this is off our list for a long time.

- Changes to mainland ferry holding area – we’ve reported on this a few times. Neighbors and county are concerned about where we line up. We’re putting together a plan to address this. When we have a plan we will announce it ahead of time; confident we’ll come up with a solution.
- Mailbox for guest passes – couple months ago a Member suggested we put a mailbox on the island side for Members to put guest pass inside. Started to work on this, but with the pandemic we decided to put this on hold for now. We will revisit and may try a test period.

New Business:

- Covid-19 safety – want to thank Jane and office staff for working through this trying time. Please pay for ferry with tickets or exact change and minimize interactions with the crew. We want to keep Members and crew healthy. Follow the social distancing guidelines.
 - Paycheck Protection Program – federal government is making funds available to small businesses to keep employees employed. HMC applied - if we get the funds, it’s a grant, not a loan, from the federal government. Motion to participate in the program; passed unanimously.
 - Small boat dock – rescheduled for May but to be determined
 - Additional announcements
1. Rules Committee – thanks to Beth Owen who served as Rules Chair for several years. The Board has approved a new Chair, Mike Fassio, and thanks him in advance
 2. Drydock – tentative dates – 9/12 – 9/27/20.
 3. Regarding finances – some people asked if we could defer payments. Board discussed and it’s not something we can do. Two sources of revenue are ferry receipts and assessments; need to pay our crew. Cannot defer assessments. We are looking at budget, which will be presented in May. We are looking at ways to economize because we recognize this will be difficult given the pandemic.
 4. Thank you to Gary Wanzong and Bob Clark for cleanup at the Water Department and next to the Community Building.
 5. Beachcomber – we forgot to send out reminder email in March – traditionally it comes out 7 days or so after Board meeting

Boosters Announcement – Robin Kelly, Boosters President – Cancelled Memorial Day activities. If that changes we can throw something together. Instead of Memorial Day activity we hope to have a Celebration of Life around Fourth of July weekend if stay in place order is lifted. We appreciate everyone who has participated in the Food Pantry at North Beach. Reed – thank you to Boosters for everything they do, and we’re hoping that we’ll be able to resume activities.

Beachcomber: Deadline is Wednesday, April 15th

Executive Session: None

Membership Input:

Dale M. – Some of us have mailboxes on the other side. We don't want to go inside cabin with crew. Can we just drive our golf carts over and come back? Jane – if it's a packed ferry you may want to wait. Reed – I hear that it'd be helpful to know if it's a more empty ferry. Dale – if there was a long line he could come back. Jane thought that this would be okay.

Paula T. – regarding Reserve Study. We on the Finance Committee had hoped to get together with the Board...there seems to be some unrealistic replacement costs. We can start by asking where we should be. We haven't adjusted some of the numbers for ten years. Jane – the reserve folks don't set those; that's up to HMC. Some numbers are low and should be adjusted annually. I think that we should talk about this. Jane – reserve study person contacted her two weeks ago and she hasn't heard back since she responded. She agrees that there needs to be a look at that. Reserve levels are already low. I think it's a good idea for Finance to look at that with the Board. Reed – HMC is not alone in this dilemma. It's an inexact science. We need to look at the costs and verify that they're accurate. Paula – she's available for the Finance Committee to meet; she'll talk with Sherri. Reed – tedious job and it requires people with financial backgrounds. The more people with eyes on it the better. Paula will talk with Sherri.

Ken H. – comment for Gary to check the current overload heaters so that they're the right size for the motor. Gary – already been done.

Janet P. – would like to compliment the Board, committee members, and island manager to make this happen. It's worked out really well. Proud to be part of this community. Reed – if this goes well we can add the video function; encouraged by this. Maybe can make this a regular thing. Janet – the technology is available to us to make this happen. Jane – this was set up in a hurry. Having the invitation go out by Constant Contact is a little clunky; will work on this and go more smoothly. We have 30 people in the meeting right now.

Adjournment: Reed thanked everyone for participating and said he is encouraged by this. Thank you to everyone for helping neighbors. Truly a unique time in our history. We can't predict what will happen for May meeting yet but will keep you informed. Adjourned the meeting at 10:47.