

HMC Board Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2021

Call to Order & Welcome - Reed West, HMC Board President.

Introduction of Board Members/Roll Call: Reed West, Chet Latimer, Kathy Deuster, Merry Kogut, and Scott Young; Jane Wooster, Island Manager; Gary Wanzong, HMC Maintenance Manager.

Reed: Thanks for joining us on this weather-challenged day.

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.

Reed asked Jane to give us a quick update on the snow on Ferry St. and the ramp. Jane – island side has been cleared – about 12 volunteers went to help – thank you. The ferry has gone to the mainland and will clear that side next. Ferry St. was usable when the ferry left, but it's constantly snowing. Reed – doing our best to keep ferry open; please leave the island only in the case of an emergency.

Treasurer's Report and Bills of the Association by Scott. HMC had to pay two bills since the last Board meeting:

Cenex: The estimate was \$125; the actual amount was \$155.29

Office Depot: The estimate was \$485.63; the actual amount was \$616.06

Scott made a Motion to Pay Bills, which passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued about a proposed motion (that was not made) to transfer \$55,000 from "ferry structural reserves" for ramp controls upgrades. Gary – the money would come out of reserve accounts. Reed – this is moving money from reserve accounts so that the money is available for after the work is done. Carolyn A – question for Gary – when we were looking at reserves, was this in there? Will this impact our assessment for next year? Gary – yes – it is in the account and will likely affect assessments. It will take a minimum of two or three months to order parts and get the work done. The money is coming out of reserve funds; it's like a savings account. Carolyn – it's over \$10,000 – shouldn't there be a vote? Chet – can we defer this to another meeting? Gary and Scott agreed that this can wait. Reed polled the Board members, and we agreed to table this until we can study this further and can vote at a future meeting.

Minutes from January 9, 2021, Board Meeting, Merry Kogut, Secretary. For the first time, the draft minutes were posted on the Herron Island website – received a couple of comments just thanking HMC for posting these. As usual, we will add a link in the minutes to the Island Manager's Report. Board unanimously approved motion to accept minutes.

Communications/correspondence: Merry.

1. A Member who had a mishap on the ferry contacted the Island Manager with concerns and suggestions.
2. A Member contacted Member Input asking a variety of funding and budget questions. She also suggested that HMC make a YouTube video on the proper way to board the ferry, following crew signals.
3. A Member contacted the Island Manager and Board members expressing concern that there may be an error in the February Island Manager's Report published on the website (the error was subsequently corrected).

Island Manager Report:

Jane Wooster discussed her Island Manager's Report (which was published on the Herron Island website prior to the meeting.) We are welcoming a new standby employee - Captain Marie Pavlovich. She has 20 years experience ranging from work on 240 car ferries to an oil spill recovery vessel. She's going through the clearance process – will start training in a few weeks.

Roads – managed by Roads Committee and Island Manager. In the event of snow, HMC has contracted with Sam Argo to clear Ferry St. A few weeks ago, significant damage was done to roads by an unknown person(s). Jane went over the list of damages that needed to be repaired. This was done by someone – we don't know who. If someone can identify the person and let Jane know, she'd like to talk with that person.

Legal Liaison: There are 19 delinquencies; 7 with the attorney's office.

Committee Reports:

- Maintenance (Gary Wanzong): No report
- Parks (Dale Miller): No report.
- Policies (Mike Gage): No report.
- Roads (Dan Marten): Jane reported – Gary, York L, and many others have been helping by obtaining “ice melt” and getting it applied on a regular basis to Ferry St, ramps, etc.
- Emergency Preparedness (Ken Higgins): Thanks to Merry for posting on Facebook about Community Connect through the Key Peninsula Fire Department. Merry will coordinate with Ken in regards to articles about the two Fire Department projects she planned to place in the March Beachcomber as an individual.
- Water (Frank Harrison): No report.
- Small Boat Dock (Sherri Anderson): No report
- Rules (Mike Fassio): Two complaints pending

Old Business - Reed:

- Covid-19 Safety: Thanks to everyone for continuing to act in a safe manner by wearing masks with ferry crew; office is open by appointment and masks must be worn there too. We still have a long way to go. Only about 30% of people in current phase have received their

two vaccinations. We are also seeing two new variants of the virus – more communicable; vaccine will probably help. We can't let our guard down; we're not at the end. We have weeks or months more to battle this.

- Budget Process: In the middle of the process – thank you to the Finance Committee volunteers, including two Board members. They work hard to put budget together each year. It's really a challenge. We have to fund operating expenses; upcoming repairs/maintenance; and remain sensitive to what this is going to cost. I appreciate everyone digging in and working hard. At the end, we'll have to raise our prices, and no one will like that. Our assessments WILL be going up, and going up significantly, in part because of the high shipyard costs last September – I don't want you to be shocked. We can't control some of the costs because we have aging infrastructure, not the least of which is the ferry. Again, I thank the Finance Committee – they are working hard and have your best interests at heart, while being mindful of what it costs us all.

New Business:

Dangerous trees – power outage about a week – ten days ago. Ask members to look at trees and deal with trees that are diseased or dead and need to come down. Make an evaluation on your property of trees that look dangerous.

I want to thank all the people who've helped in the last couple of days to get us ready for the snow. Lot of work and coordination by staff and volunteers. A lot of people were involved, including Dan M, our Roads Chair, who is currently in California. This morning people were down at the ferry with snow shovels, shoveling the road. This is a good example of how people pull together – I really appreciate people's volunteerism and the work of our staff to try and minimize the effects of snowstorms, windstorms, etc.

Boosters Report and Announcements: Robin Kelly, Boosters' President: The Boosters' annual meeting will be Saturday, February 20, at 10:30 am via Zoom. Please email Joyce Major at joycemajor1@hotmail.com to receive the appropriate instructions for participation. We welcome any and all ideas for future projects, and other input from members, and will be voting on the election of officers for the Boosters' board. Thank you to the HMC Board for always giving the Boosters time to speak at your meetings and be included in the Beachcomber. Since we are not able to send out mass emails, Facebook and the Beachcomber are our only way to communicate directly with members, other than word of mouth and posted signs. Although we are technically sold out of calendars, we still have directories available; please let me know if you need one. We look forward to seeing and hearing you all next Saturday at our annual meeting.

Andy T – can we send out an email, put notices on Facebook, put in Beachcomber?

Robin – yes, we've put in on Facebook and the Beachcomber, but we don't have a way to do a mass email.

Joyce – it's very easy for me to copy and paste the Zoom information and send in an email.

Robin repeated Joyce's email address several times; it's also in the Directory.

Beachcomber: No February issue

Membership Input:

Dave H – Apologized for his comments about cleaning up the road; he hadn't realized that the road had been torn up. Cautioned that big limbs came down in the snowstorm and that people need to be careful. Expressed concern about a member or tenant who was acting out, screaming, and using a kayak to block Sam A., who was trying to clear the road of snow. Tara S added that this person is a danger to the island. Jane asked to be sent an email when things like this occur. Reed – we want to know about these incidents – there are several steps we can take, and we need documentation.

Robin – our kayaks were “borrowed” – I was told who the borrower was – Jane, should I send you an email about that. Jane – yes, send me emails when things like this happen; what I need most is the people who actually saw it. Reed – it's also appropriate to contact sheriff's office and file a report. If there are multiple reports about one person, it's going to make some difference. Robin will email Jane about this.

Merry – Noted that in the two current rules complaints, they both involve people's behavior, and that HMC takes these concerns very seriously.

Dave H – what's going on with our text alerts? This would be a good time to use this. Jane – we are working on a total package to address many different issues.

Carolyn A – regarding unsafe trees – does anyone look at unsafe trees on island property? Reed - Kathy is in charge of that. Kathy will meet with Carolyn after the snow is gone. If anyone knows of a bad tree on HMC property, please alert Kathy. Reed – Kathy has a great knowledge of the trees on the island, so please bring concerns to her.

Reed – appreciate everyone's input. Key takeaway is to keep in touch with HMC. The only way to respond to concerns is to hear what they are. I want to thank everyone for participating this morning. I want to thank all the volunteers working on the roads.

Executive Session: None

There were 26 participants on today's Zoom call.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.