

Island Manager Report
May 14, 2011

Administration:

1. **Volunteers:** Thanks to those who helped at Parks Appreciation Day April 16, and those who helped put in the docks the following weekend:

Mark & Michelle Ackerman, Dallas Amidon, Andy & Sherri Anderson, Tracy & Carolyn Anspach, Paula (Finn & Max) Burke, Steve Chapin, Terrill Chilson, Dave Clausen, Gabrielle Collier, Carole Crowley, Jim Davies, Denny & Tootsie Duback, Kathy Duester, Larry Eccles, John Farris, Delia Gallucci, Don & Judy Greinke, Dana Gruber, Joe Hauth, Leonard Hill, Lonnie & Linda Kelly, Merry Kogut, Al Moren, Dick Mowry, Steve Ohlsen, Doyle & Rhonda Parnell, Jonas Ray, Karl Schafer, Wally & Bev Semon, Mike Shettlesworth, Gary Soriano, Todd & Sharon Stone, Paula Trent, Rich Urfer, Gary Wanzong, Jack & Nancy Wells and Reed West.

Also, thanks to Terry Fletcher and Sam Argo for both the donation and installation of a large fire pit at North Beach.

We are compiling a list of warmer weather volunteer choices and invite anyone interested to contact the office.

2. **Vandalism of HMC and Member Property:** Two reports of the “sticker” vandalism were filed with the Pierce County Sheriff, both with witnesses. Investigation by the Sheriff revealed that the suspect confessed to having purchased stickers in large quantity and distributing them to perhaps 10 others to put on HMC property and private property. In addition, a toxic substance was sprayed or applied in the island side waiting shed that caused ferry crew and members including children to become ill. Other members turned in photographs or came into the office to complain. The Sheriff warned the suspects against further use of the stickers, and a Rules complaint has been filed against the primary suspect.
3. **July 4 Security:** Last July Fourth’s celebration resulted in two Rules complaints regarding vandalism and trespass, which were resolved with fines against the offending members. As a result, a deputy sheriff was hired for Labor Day to improve security. This year July 4 falls on Monday, which means the holiday celebration will cover four to five days. Members have expressed concern about the expense of hiring a deputy, and also about the need for security. The Sheriff will also not authorize a deputy to come to the island alone, which would double the cost of security. The budget contains \$2,000 for annual security, which would barely cover the cost of two deputies for part of a day.
4. **Derelict Vehicles or Properties:** Members can contact PC Responds at 253-798-4636 regarding code violations involving vehicles or structures on the island. A list of code violations can be found at the County website under PCResponds.
5. **Personnel Policies: Drug and Alcohol Use:** Submitted for Board approval is a Drug and Alcohol Policy proposed by the HMC labor attorney. While HMC is in compliance with Coast Guard regulations regarding drug and alcohol testing, HMC has no policy statement as an employer regarding testing of all employees in safety related positions, as well as discipline and termination policy. On adoption, this policy will be provided to HMC employees as needed.

6. **Assessments:** Assessments are due no later than April 30 and October 31. Members need to allow time for their mailed payments to arrive at the HMC Office in order to avoid late charges. Mail is picked up at the Lakebay Post Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This can result in payments being received and opened at the office later than the due date.

Water System Project: Ellis and Sue Pottorff and Ed Hovde have joined the Water Project Committee, and Alan DeGood has been added to the email list. As a result of the WPC meeting and discussions with NWS, we will be taking estimates for survey of some island roads, specifically Single Lane Road and a portion of West Herron Road. This is scaled down from the original proposal to survey all roads. The WPC also plans to draft a letter to all members with basic information about the water project, its schedule and scope.

For now, here is an approximate schedule for the system replacement:

May: Hold Water Use Efficiency Meeting, discuss Water Utility Policy

June: Submit Project Report to Department of Health for review

July/August: Draft bid documents/hold bidder's conference

September: Bid Review with USDA

October: Select contractor, begin construction (INTERIM FINANCING)

November/December/January: Construction

January/February: Prepayment "Window" for members who wish to pay full capital costs in advance.

January/February: System becomes operational.

Two Reminders: First, during the project, HMC may need to notify members of shutoffs, construction detours or other issues. If you have not added your name to the HMC Email Distribution list at the office, please notify office@herronisland.org to be added to the list, which will be used ONLY for HMC business purposes.

Second, members are encouraged to know the exact location of their property boundaries. In the past, several members have incorrectly believed that their property extended right up to the road surface. In truth, however, the HMC roadway is in most places wider than the surfaced road itself, and the Member's actual boundary is not at the edge of the road. When reviewing your property boundaries, remember that Pen Light power poles are in the HMC right of way, as are most water valves. These can be useful guides. Unresolved boundary line issues could hold up our water project and result in higher overall costs. If you have questions, please contact the HMC Office.

Water Utility: No word yet from the IRS on our application for exempt status.

Water Maintenance and Operation: Coliform testing was conducted at 901 West Yew; results were satisfactory.

Fire Department Liaison: **Spring Burn:** The spring burn has been cancelled, due to low tides on available weekends and a lack of resources to manage the burn. Members should NOT deposit any plant material at North Beach, but should arrange to dispose of it by other means.

Land Use: Committee Report

Emergency Preparedness: Committee Report

Legal Liaison: Current delinquencies include Ruckstein, currently making payments to HMC, and McNally. McNally is an estate issue; and the final title transfer on the Tchochiev property should occur on May 13, Friday.

Parks: A report has come in that some alder trees have fallen in Nature Park, due to the saturated ground, and volunteers are needed to remove them, especially those that have fallen onto property next door. Volunteers may be needed to help remove the trees after the member has given permission.

North Beach Marina: We are in the midst of the permitting phase. The project has been determined to meet the exemption under SEPA (State Environmental Policy Act), one major hurdle crossed. We are now requesting a permit to replace the legally existing pilings. The County expressed concern about whether the floats were permitted, and we have been able to produce a letter from 1995 in which replacement floats were permitted. The next steps will be approvals from the US Army Corps of Engineers for a letter of permission; Hydraulic Project approval from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for work in a water of the State, and from Department of Natural Resources for Aquatic Land Lease Authorization. DNR may want to update our lease. Members can expect to see various visitors and boats around the marina, as these agencies conduct any inspections of the site required by the permit process.

THANKS to all those who have helped find documentation of permitted work at the marina, or photos and other documents attesting to its existence prior to the 1971 Shoreline Act.

Roads: Committee Report.

Rules: There are three open complaints: Crowley vs. Furgason; HMC vs. Furgason and HMC vs. Parnell.

Transportation: **Standby Deck Hand:** Jim Davies has qualified as the most recent addition to our standby deck hands. When you see him working, please welcome him.

The IBU collective bargaining agreement has been approved by the IBU members, and this agreement is now ready for final approval by the Board.

Coast Exteriors of Buckley, a metal roofing company which has replaced many roofs on the island, has agreed to put new roofs on both the island and mainland waiting sheds, at no cost to HMC members. These roofs will last up to 40 years and require no maintenance, plus they improve the overall appearance of our facilities. In return, Coast Exteriors will place small signs on each shed identifying them as the donor.

Technology: Fred Fath continues to work on an iPod application which may help satisfy our electronic ticketing needs.