

Island Manager Report May 8, 2010

Administration:

Facilities: Parts are on order to replace the drain in front of the community building garage. The cost of these parts will be approximately \$1500. Thanks to Steve Kramer and Mike Shettlesworth for continuing to pursue this.

Signage: New ferry signs are in place and look great. There are also some new signs at the North Bean Marina regarding location of beached boats. Locking burn ban signs are ready for installation in two spots: at the Ferry Road intersection ferry road, and near the whiteboard sign at the top of the island.

Volunteers: Thanks again to the several islanders who helped on Earth Day, and to those who helped pick up debris for the fire on May 15 – Chris & Shawn Rushmeier, Scott Sloan, Steve Kusander, and others. Mike Shettlesworth volunteered his boat and his time to take engineers from KPFF on a tour of the dolphins and North Beach Marina on April 29.

Derelict Vehicles: In late April, we sent certified letters to four members on whose property there are derelict vehicles, along with photographs of the items. The letter stated that if we did not hear from them in 30 days, we would assume that they wished HMC to take action to have these items removed through the Pierce County PC Responds process. To date, three letter receipts have been returned, and one owner has contacted us, upset by what she claims is illegal dumping on her property. She is offering to take action, and we will do our best to support that by facilitating her efforts.

There are at least 15 more properties with derelict vehicles, and as time permits, we'll continue to address this growing problem, to enhance the beauty of the island and its desirability to members and future members.

Building Amnesty Program: Possibly some members may want to be aware of Pierce County's Building Amnesty Program, which allows property owners to enter a program to review structures that may have been built, or altered, without a permit. The County wants to be certain that life safety issues are addressed in unpermitted structures, and also provides a way for property owners to meet standards and obtain a permit retroactively. Owners have one year to complete the process after the application has been accepted and a site visit conducted. More information can be obtained at the Pierce County web site, under Planning & Land Services.

Water System Replacement/Upgrade: No action pending the May 8 ballot.

Water: Mike Davis' absence has quite a noticeable impact, especially now that we must research and contract for water system operators off-island. We met with Mike Ireland of Washington Water, and have spoken with Peninsula Light and Northwest Water systems to gather information. I believe the best route at this time would be to ask the Water Committee to set a meeting where we could interview Washington Water, NWS and Pen Light regarding their recommendations on our system, costs and timeliness of service. We will need to meet with each of these to discuss our needs and reach agreement. So far, we have found quite a range of service costs:

✚ **Washington Water:** for 24/7 standby service -- \$1.60 per connection per month, plus monthly flat fee of \$218.

✚ **Pen Light:** monthly administrative fee \$4.00 per connection; monitoring monthly flat fee \$135 per month.

- ✚ **Northwest Water Systems:** “Included Services” (including 24/7 availability) \$85 per month; other services are billed at an hourly rate.

As you can see, contract terms vary widely. Pen Light base rate is more than double that of Washington Water, which is double that of Northwest Water Systems, and service levels also differ. I would recommend that the standing Water Committee (with Mike Davis’ participation) meet with these potential contractors, each of whom is familiar with the island, and discuss contract terms with them to determine 1) scope of services; and 2) cost of services before recommending a provider to the Board. Obviously, this needs to be done quickly and given a high priority.

Until then, we will need to depend either on staff or volunteers to take the monthly water samples.

Emergency Preparedness:

Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan: Lou Dooley of Pierce County Emergency Management will make a presentation to the Board regarding this plan at today’s meeting.

Fire Department Liaison:

Beach Burn permit has been issued, and the date is set for May 15th.

Land Use: Committee report.

Legal Liaison: Currently, five delinquencies.

Parks: Committee Report..

Roads:

Maintenance: The water truck has been services and Dick Mowry has been cleaning up roadside and doing some spring grading..

Rules: No report.

Transportation:

Ron Fugere, standby captain and deck hand, submitted his resignation last week. Ron has moved to the Seattle area and found that it is impractical for him to work and train on the Charlie Wells. Fortunately, at the same time Ron resigned, Paul Jensen has completed his captain’s training and been approved as standby captain and deck hand.

An unfortunate accident occurred on the Charlie Wells when a member tripped and fell as she turned towards the passenger cabin. Kevin Kircher, Mike Shettlesworth, and Lyle Herman were witnesses, and were able to assist her until paramedics arrived. No permanent injuries appear to have occurred.

Pierce County Wharf Easement: No news regarding “land swap”.

Marine Facility Survey: KPFF sent two engineers out to the island on April 29th to see the structures at low tide. Mike Shettlesworth was kind enough to take them on a tour from the water side in his boat.

We were also able to loan dock construction documents found in the attic of the community building, for use in their research.

Technology: No report.