

Island Manager Report  
September 10, 2016

**Administration.**

**Community Building:** We are still in need of cleaning services for the community building. Anyone interested please contact the office. Until that happens, many thanks to the volunteer(s) who are keeping the kitchen and restrooms clean.

**Water Operations:** Charles Smith will report.

Water maintenance trailer training will be held on September 24, 1 p.m., and October 7 at 11 a.m., at the community building. Please let Charles know at [hmcwater@herronisland.org](mailto:hmcwater@herronisland.org) if you plan to attend. This is good preparation for the October absence of the ferry.

As some of you know, on 07 September 2016, prior to 10:00 AM we had a fire hydrant damaged by a contractor/vendor. The vendor's truck could not negotiate the corner at the intersection of Maple Drive and East Herron BLVD (One Lane Road). Instead of taking the long way around to the south entrance of the One Lane Road, the driver had to pull forward and back up at least twice. On the second try, the driver hit the fire hydrant and sheared off the top cap of the hydrant. The driver then continued on to make his delivery, turned around and returning to the ferry also ran over the t-post and traffic cones at the intersection. We have contacted the responsible party and are negotiating a claim for damages. The cost to repair is yet unknown.

If things like this happen, report the incident to the HMC Office (253-884-9350 or [office@herronisland.org](mailto:office@herronisland.org)) or the HI Water Department (206-707-4645 or [HMCWater@herronisland.org](mailto:HMCWater@herronisland.org)).

The HI Water Department is coordinating with contractors on the replacement or installation of water services on member property.. Please call or email prior to digging at the water meter. As some members have been finding out - even having a surveyor placing corner stakes can have an impact on the water services. It is a good idea to use the 811 Call Before You Dig utility locate service prior to doing any excavation.

The Exceptions Report/Leak List - If a member is on the Leak List for September and the member is NOT in residence on the Island, the HI Water Department will be turning the member's water service off at the meter and contacting the member via leak list letter. The water service will NOT be locked by HI Water Department. This is an effort to conserve water resources and help prevent damage at properties that will not be occupied during the winter.

It is recommended by the HI Water Department that if a member is not going to be in residence on the Island for a period of time, that member should turn off the water service at the meter. It is up to the member to provide a lock for the valve at the meter box unless requested of the HI Water Department by the member. It's also a good idea to provide a spare key to a trusted neighbor just in case.

The HI Water Department had its sanitary survey by the Department of Health. There were no significant issues that needed to be addressed. Paint that was stored in the shed was removed. A developing bee comb on the top hatch of the new reservoir was removed "by broom" - no pesticides were used. The DOH also gave us a verbal OK on the construction of the material storage bins for the Roads Department.

The HI Water Department completed several projects this year including replacing the yard hydrant at the North Beach boat launch and replacing a malfunctioning meter setter. Additional details are available in the Water Committee meeting minutes on the Herron Island web site.

**Water Committee Report:** Charles Smith will report for the committee.

**Fire Department Liaison:** The fire department will have to revamp its plans for the ferry's absence. They had arranged for a lease of a boat from Anderson Island and for the docks to remain in the water at Joemma Park; due to pushing the date to October, however, this will not be possible. They are researching options.

**Emergency Preparedness:** Mike Shettlesworth will report. Planning for the ferry to be out of service is a good time to review your emergency preparedness plan and stock up on essential supplies.

**Parks:** After many years of service as chairman of the Parks Committee, Tracy Anspach has resigned. Among Tracy's achievements was his recent celebration of his own birthday as a way to raise funds for parks fencing and equipment. Thank you, Tracy.

Volunteers will be working on repairing/replacing planks on the small boat docks this fall, and the docks will be left in place until the ferry returns. This means that their removal is not likely to take place until November. Thanks to Dana Gruber for adding ties to the chain link fence, firmly securing it to the frame.

**Roads: Committee Report.**

There remain several roads projects to improve drainage, increase safety and reduce erosion. Much of this work will be scheduled out in the next few months. Several of the projects involve some of the island trickier intersections. The roadway easement of HMC is generally 40 feet, much wider than the graded surface, which meanders mostly within the easement. A professional survey will resolve the property lines of the roadway easement so that all work can take place on HMC property. The intersections under work are Maple/East Herron, Maple/East Madrona, and East Madrona/West Madrona. The survey should also help resolve ownership of trees along those intersections, so that some tree removal can be done this fall. Any surveys conducted by HMC are available to share with Members, but do not include all the island roads. If you would like to review any of these surveys, please contact the office.

**Rules:** There is one outstanding rules complaint, and scheduling of the hearing is pending.

**Herron Island Ferry:**

**Fall Ferry Inspection:** The ferry will head for Stabbert Maritime in Seattle on Sunday, October 16. The last day running the full schedule will be Saturday, October 15. Members should plan for the ferry to be out for three weeks. The small boat docks will be left in the water for commuters and emergency responders. Information on other preparations will be coming from the HMC Office in the next few weeks. The out of water inspection occurs in even numbered years on a schedule set by the Coast Guard. The 2018 deadline will be September 26.

**Ramp Painting Warranty Work:** Long Painting came out and fixed some problem areas. A very few remain, and they will be coming back to the island to do the final touchups.

**Dolphin Replacement Project:** This project is in abeyance while we wait for fall to call for bids. Meanwhile, PND is applying for Pierce County building and demolition permits. The Department of Natural Resources is moving very slowly on our lease renewal, because all available personnel are assigned to support fire operations.

**Ferry Crew:** Rich Urfer has retired (again). Dan Morgan will begin training as a standby deck hand, and we are currently recruiting for both standby positions.

**Health Care:** We have just completed the renewal of health care benefits for the five covered employees. Medical costs rose 8.7%, to \$942 per employee per month or \$56,520 annually. Employees will again be able to reduce the HMC medical premium by 7.5%, if they participate in a simple health assessment. Last year only two employees participated, saving HMC \$1,533.64. If the other three had participated, HMC would have saved an additional \$3,834.

**Transportation Committee:** No report.

**Technology:** No report.

**Legal Liaison:** We currently have 5 delinquencies, all of which are with the attorney for collections. Delinquency rate of 1.3%. Last year at this time we had 18 delinquencies. Currently, HMC has 383 Assessable Units and 397 Water customers.