

Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee (LIFAC)

February 7, 2017

Lummi Island Fire Hall

CALL TO ORDER - Vice Chair Nancy Ging called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

ROLL CALL - Present: Charles Bailey, Cris Colburn, Nancy Ging, Mike Skehan

Also in Attendance: Bill Lee, Beth Louis, Roland Middleton, Rob Ney, Jansen Pierce, Mike Kmiecik, Mary Ross, Jim Dickenson, and Stuart Rich

FLAG SALUTE

OPEN SESSION

Beth Louis, PLIC President thanked Ging and Middleton for presenting at their Annual Meeting, discussing the LOS draft and process moving forward. Their Dry Dock survey has received 223 responses and will be forwarded to LIFAC at our Mar 7th meeting with discussion on April 4th.

Jim Dickinson commented the idea of a smaller ferry would not meet the needs of islanders, pointing out families have moved off the island because it's difficult to make schedules for work; using the example of a friend being late to work too often and risked being fired. The EBDG 2005 ferry study came up with a 35 car boat. Nichols Engineering noted the biggest cost is in the ends of the boat. He noted there isn't a plan for what to do if the Chief becomes unusable.

Charles Bailey thanked PW and ferry crew for quickly getting the Chief back into service after mechanical problem the night before.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1/3/17 Meeting Minutes – Colburn moved and Bailey seconded a motion to approve, passing 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Update from Public Works - Rob Ney, Public Works Special Programs Manager, Ferry Division noted the outage was an electrical relay at the dock. A supplemental budget request of \$25k for labor and \$40k for emergency repairs was not used last year because of cost savings in both those accounts. FY2016 operations report is coming along and hopefully will be ready in March. Bailey noted the traffic data for Aug 2016 will be entered by Skehan and Ney will have January data count available soon for entry.

Update on LOS – Roland Middleton, WCPW Special Projects, reported no comments were received by the deadline on the draft resolution and attached LOS Exhibit A, but did take notes at the PLIC meeting where comments were made. Needs based fares were asked to be included in the goals. He also would like the Feasibility Study or Alternative Analysis (AA) completion date to be moved back to Jun 30, 2018 after talking to several consulting firms about timelines for the study, which is yet to be determined in scope. Discussion followed, wordsmithing various edits in Exhibit A, resulting in a motion by Skehan, seconded by Colburn and unanimous adoption of the following 2 changes.

1.a.v. – after last comma add “, including needs based fares.”

2.a. – change December 31, 2017 to “Jun 30, 2018.”

Further discussion ensued on the two LOS documents resulting in:

Bailey moved swapping 1.a.v. with 1.a.iv. for clarity, Colburn seconded and was passed 4.0.

Middleton noted the minor edits included from the last meeting to the resolution, giving some insight into how the Council might view this document coming from its own Advisory Committee being very good.

Colburn suggested changing the 6th WHEREAS striking ‘is nearing’ to read “now approaches”

Bailey suggested changing last RESOLVED striking ‘is’ to read “are”

Colburn changed 5th WHEREAS from 'is continuing' to "continues"
Colburn changed 6th WHEREAS from 'is nearing' to "now approaches"
Colburn changed 9th WHEREAS from 'is continuing' to "continues"
Colburn changed 11th WHEREAS to read "...identified in Exhibit A."
Also changed 1st RESOLVED to "attachment hereto (Exhibit A)."
Bailey moved, Colburn seconded a motion to accept the 6 changes in wording, passing 4-0

Ney advised he would be on vacation during the April 4th meeting, but Middleton would be available.

NEW BUSINESS

Feasibility Study: Middleton explained the process moving forward with the Council Resolution and Exhibit A going to PW Director Hutchings, then the County Executive for inclusion in the Council packet for February 21, asking for LIFAC support at both the PW Cmmte meeting in the afternoon and the full Council in the evening, or he could be prepared to speak on our behalf. Bailey asked what information LIFAC members attending should be prepared to speak on. Middleton responded giving a brief history of the yearlong effort with PW and the community to bring forward our goals for LOS in the AA process moving forward, towards an eventual ferry boat replacement. A budget supplemental could be brought to Council in March or April for the AA/Feasibility Study in Comp Plan. Ongoing empirical information such as the Traffic Study helps define not only the size of boat needed, but all the other facilities needed in the future. He also reminded us this is the beginning of the work.

Louis said someone from PLIC would also be in attendance to support the Resolution. Ging moved and Bailey seconded a vote of Thanks to Ney and Middleton for this accomplishment, passing 4-0.

Middleton asked for 1 or 2 members of LIFAC to be part of the PW Management Team going forward when developing the RFQ (Request for Qualifications) for the AA Study, and consultant selection process. This is an iterative process with PW bringing pieces of the Study to LIFAC over the next 12-18 months as the study moves forward. A draft Scope of Work should be available for our March meeting for discussion.

Lee thanked PW for their effort in moving this forward in a transparent manner.

Ging proposed having 1 LIFAC member and Beth Louis from PLIC as part of the Management Team. Middleton said that would be acceptable also.

Colburn wanted to us plan for 1 or 2 LIFAC members to be available for the long process before us to be available during days to work with PW and the consultant selected.

Ging asked members to think about the time commitment needed to be a part of the AA Management Team (name to be determined) over the next year or so, and be prepared to express their interest in serving on that group.

ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.