

Boat Access Committee Meeting Notes

Present at the meeting Mary Ross, Chris Immer, Sandi Fukumoto, Alan Krum, Larry Roteman, Lane and Bruce Coury, Carrie Garde, Judy Thomas, Paul Davis, Dave Perry, Bob Auld, Nick Kluge, Richard Frye, MJ VanHousen, Christine Green. Folks that had signed up but were unable to attend that still indicated they were interested include Scott Coughlin, Cathi Shornick, Olivia Marshall & Greg Hall.

Mary Ross started the conversation stating her minimum goal of having an accessible boat landing area that can be used on short notice to transport people between the island and the mainland during a ferry outage, especially people with need for urgent but not necessarily emergent access to medical care. She suggested the some of the goals of the committee might be:

- investigate and inform ourselves and the LI community exactly what the current situation is regarding existing landing sites.
- Inform ourselves and the LI community what is currently in the plans by the County for replacement docks on Island and Gooseberry Side to accomodate future new ferry. Advocate for solution that addresses current and future needs.
- Inform ourselves and community what is in LIHT Aiston Management Plan re Emergency Access plans for Helicopter Evac, and Landing Craft Beach access.
- Investigate working in partnership with other entities to create and implement a workable immediate solution to the lack of a safe public boat access point

Participants introduced themselves and many other suggestions were added. Suggestions included

- Need for an emergency evacuation plan for Lummi Island. Develop a list of boat owners willing to help with urgent transport during a ferry outage planned or unplanned.
- Public Dock for loading and unloading quick trip to a store or café for visiting boaters if near by.
- Seasonal docks or floats very common in north east island communities (example Maine)
- Beneficial for island boaters who might not be able bodied to row out and board a moored or anchored boat as population ages
- Need to be aware of permitting, on island funding may or may not go over with community at large.
- Investigate possibly working with Whatcom county Parks and rec.

Everyone agreed that they thought forming a committee was a good idea. Not ready to formally select a chair or secretary quite yet. Will see what evolves from here.

Chris Immer shared info he had learned speaking with Roland Middleton, of Whatcom County Public Works re rough plans for redesign of docks on both sides that will be done in future to accommodate new ferry. Said that the new dock design will have separate passenger loading capability. (Need to confirm and find out more about this) Chris said that PW does not want small boat public dock traffic interfering with ferry traffic. Said that only properly CG licensed operators to use the dock. Still checking if that would pertain to emergency responders during an outage.

Chris also shared info he had after a conversation with Teri Terry re possibility of working with Whatcom County Parks and Rec to get dock project off ground. He will share documents that are examples of what citizens groups have put together when making a proposal to the WCP&R commission. Alan Krum

will create a webpage for the Boat Access Committee on the OurLummiIsland.org website where documents and recording of these Zoom meetings can be stored and viewed by committee members and other interested islanders.

Bob Auld, Judy Thomas, Larry Roteman, and Dave Perry offered to begin investigating possible existing access points on the island.

Mary Ross, Christine Green, and Larry Roteman volunteered to begin working on finding out what other local islands have in the way of boat access for public and emergency.

Chris Immer will continue to investigate working with WCP&RC. (I am attaching his 7 point suggestions for organizing a proposal that Terri Terry gave him). The group agreed that the 7 point suggestion would be a good framework for the committee to use to organize ourselves to work on this project.

We agreed to meet again next Monday October 4 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM Via Zoom. Mary will send a link out to everyone who attended and signed up.

Topic of meeting will be using the 7 point plan to get organized.

Also will let anyone from the sub groups share anything they have found out since the last meeting.

To get to the OurLummiIsland.org Boat Access Committee page click [here](#) and open hyperlink.

Notes by Mary Ross