

**Joint Committee to Host Parks & Recreation Commission
Visit to Lummi Island
Tuesday July 26, 2022 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM via Zoom**

PRESENT

Chris Immer (PDAC), Mary Ross (PDAC, LIHT), Terry Terry (Parks & Rec), and Lane Coury (PDAC).
(Notes by Lane Coury.)

DISCUSSION NOTES

1. Update expectations for the commission meeting

- a. At June meeting – Lummi Island Public Dock project was brought up by the co-chair a well-organized effort with community benefit that commissioners should consider.
- b. Terry working on finalizing contract with the Grange (scheduled from 4 to 9 PM). Must follow protocol in handling the financial end of the agreement.
- c. New Parks & Rec Dept. Exec Director **might** attend as an observer, although he does not start work officially until early September.
- d. Commissioners might bring visitors to speak to items on the agenda.
- e. Thoughts on dinner:
Waiting to hear what commissioners decide to do about dinner? A pot luck was put forth as one idea.
Beach Store Café will be open. Could we order ahead?
* WE CANNOT BUY DINNER FOR COMMISSIONERS *
f. *Suggestion:* Provide invitations to upcoming island events to each commissioner.
Review [draft version](#) at August 2 meeting.
- g. Thoughts for future of Public Dock Advisory Committee (see page 2)

2. Review outline of organizations to participate and discuss status ([see document under "Parks & Recreation Commission"](#))

- a. Decide whether to generate a handout with blurbs on each organization – capture a snapshot of the broad range of resident interests and activities
- b. Discuss possible handout for the commission on “Lummi Island by the Numbers” – Terry will find us a copy of the one from Birch Bay (see notes on page 3)
- c. Provide sample Tomes from July – the office for commissioners might still receive a mailed newsletter, but not sure each member is seeing a copy.
- d. Work on plan to set up an area at the Grange with display tables and pictures about island life and orgs? Especially if it can be outside. Include businesses, artists, vendors.

3. Review island tour and sites to point out

- a. Commissioners are discussing and will let committee know. In meantime, continue planning in case.
- b. Work on draft of a map handout marked with key features.
Review draft version at August 2 meeting. Refer to [committee website page](#) for maps.

- c. Discuss sites to visit – Refer to [committee website](#) for current list of places to see.
- d. Supplemental materials to physical tour on land – get some good pics of island as viewed from the water

4. Next meeting Aug ?? at 7 PM. Should we consider meeting in person?

- a. Review plans and status of outstanding tasks.
- b. Review action list outlining roles with responsibilities and anticipated due dates.

Suggestions for future activities/focus of Public Dock Committee

The current meetings are focused on planning for the August visit by the Whatcom County Parks & Recreation Commission. This is a great opportunity to showcase the island, but is not a forum to discuss the concept of a public dock. After this visit is over, the committee will return to monthly meetings to continue working toward specific goals.

Thoughts on Island Statistics and Demographics

Terry Terry suggests that the public dock committee look for ways to enhance the county's understanding of island life and who lives here. One example is to look at Birch Bay's successful effort to build their berm with a safe pedestrian walkway –

- **Council of Governments** was instrumental in getting project off the ground
- Built awareness of seasonal visitors and impact on getting funded using “Birch Bay by the Numbers”
- Quantified tax dollars generated by visitors spending money – became a very important tool
- Provided data on demographics and illustrated voter influence
- Started to deliver the message ONE council member at a time in a structured way

Thoughts on Potential Activities for the Committee

The group discussed ways that the Public Dock Committee could consider developing smaller goals along the very long path to getting a dock built.

One goal is to develop a more detailed plan to manage a response to an incident on the island.

We have talked a lot about organizing boats to move passengers on/off the island when the ferry is not available. Now we need a set of specific steps to help manage this response.

The committee might start by soliciting input from other islanders specifically for a ferry outage. Once we have that plan in place, maybe see who is interested in working toward a unified strategy for helping the community respond to *other* events and to cope with any aftermath.

What if power is out for 4 or 5 days, for example? This impacts many islanders, but we do not have a structured way to get the people who can help hooked up with the people who need help.

Maybe this means that the dock committee expands its mission? Or it might mean that a new advisory committee is formed? In any case – it would be a benefit to the community if we could put the dock committee's work over the past year to such good use.