

Public Dock Advisory Committee
November 22, 2022 7:00-8:30 PM via Zoom

PRESENT: Mary Ross, Dave Perry, Terry Terry, Lane Coury. (Notes by Lane Coury.)

Reminder: *No meeting will be held in December 2022. Save your energy for the new year.*

STATUS: RCO - PLANNING FOR RECREATION ACCESS (PRA) GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Refer to [grant website](#) for grant details. Submitted application on 11/14/2022 with four key documents:

- 1: [PRA Application](#) (2 page PDF with contact info, project description and cultural resources review)
- 2: [PRA Letter of Intent](#) (2 page PDF with background, community outreach plans, etc.)
- 3: [PRA Map](#) (2 page PDF)
- 4: [PRA Budget Summary](#) (PDF)

11/22/22 Discussed. Alan received an email confirmation from RCO that they received a complete application.

10/31/2022 – Island visit and tour with Bennett Knox and Christ Thomsen from Parks & Recreation Dept.

Greg kicked off with a welcome on behalf of LICA. Then the tour proceeded with Mary Ross, Dave Perry, Alan Krum, and Lane Coury from the committee. We used a variety of handouts and reference materials ([refer to the tour itinerary with links to handouts](#)).

We started with a look at the ferry terminal site and the steep rip rap making access to boats very difficult. Walked to the Beach Access site and spent 20 minutes discussing the constraints with accessing the beach at different tidal levels. Went to Aiston for 30 min discussion with Elizabeth K and drove down to see the pit and progress on removing the rip rap. Went to Otto Preserve and spent 20 mins visiting with Susan Hutton and learning about LIHT. Went to Lummi Island Congregational Church and toured the church and the Gathering Place with Becca R and Rhayma B. Stopped at Legoe Bay to give a brief intro on reef net gear. Made a quick tour of the boat launch at Village Point Marina. Wrapped up by stopping for 10 minutes at the Island Library.

The meeting was very productive and we felt that Bennett and Christ were supportive and interested. Both agreed to help us review our RCO pre-planning grant application (due on Nov 14).

11/1/2022 – Island visit with Ted Morris, Capital Project Specialist for Blaine Birch Bay Parks and Rec District

Lane and Mary met Ted for a tour of the island and discussion about the committee's efforts toward getting a public dock. We shared our handout materials from the 10/31/22 Parks & Rec tour. Ted was extremely helpful in making suggestions and offering insights into project planning, giving examples of his grants experience, etc. He really helped us to clarify our key points and make our pitch more effective.

11/17/2022 -- Meeting of Parks & Rec Commission on Lummi Island at the Island Grange.

LICA and the committee coordinated a 30 minute presentation to help the commissioners get to know the community. Five key organizations provided overviews of their work and explained how their efforts align with the mission and goals of the Parks & Recreation Commission: LICA (Greg Hall, President); Lummi Island Heritage Trust (Susan Hutton, Executive Director); Congregational Church (Rebecca Rettmer, Gathering Place Board Chair); Lummi Island Library and FOIL (Alan Krum, FOIL Board Member); and Beach Elementary School and LIFE (Doreen Richmond, LIFE Board Member).

Meeting follow up: Terry Terry, commissioner from Lummi Island, forwarded an email from Sonja Max, Commission Chair after the meeting. She said, *"Thank you again for organizing such a wonderful meeting. It was great to learn about your community and the various ways in which everyone supports each other. Such a treat to be welcomed in that way. Please pass along my appreciation to everyone who played a part."*

NEW BUSINESS AND KEY DATES COMING UP

January 2023 – begin planning for 2026-2028 potential long-term ferry outage.

January 9th (Tuesday) - Lane will draft Tome article and send for review

January 12th (Friday) - Tome committee update article for January.

January 25th (Wednesday) – PDAC provides LICA Board update at general meeting.

GOALS FOR JAN-MARCH 2023 – start drafting short and long term goals

GOAL 1: Build connections and partnerships with project champions

Whatcom County Parks & Recreation: Committee members will try to attend Parks & Recreation Commission meetings when possible. They are held on the fourth Thursday each month, and are usually in-person only. You can read through minutes and handouts [from the commission site](#). Especially recommend that you look at commissioner Frank Boteler's [report on Budget Trends and Opportunities](#).

Whatcom County Council: meets monthly on the 4th Tuesday via hybrid of Zoom and in person. * You can replay previous meetings – [look at the calendar here](#)

In 2023, PDAC should begin to build connections with individual councilors. Ben Elenbaas is our District 5 representative – tell him about what we have already done with grant application, etc. Other councilors: Barry Buchanan (at large), Carol Frazey, Tyler Byrd from the foothills, and Kathy Kirshner. We should make a plan to extend individual invitations for a personal visit and tour. (We understand that Todd Donovan has expressed no interest in pursuing a public dock at this time.)

Whatcom County Executive's Office: send email to Satpal and to Tyler Schroeder. Update them on submission of the RCO PGA grant application. Ask for suggestions about what to do next to be included in the County Comprehensive Plan.

Whatcom County Public Works: Liz Kosovo is Acting Director because Jon Hutchings has left. The committee plans to reach out to Roland Middleton in early January to set a time to get together and bring him up to speed on our progress, application for the RCO grant, meetings with Parks & Recreation, etc.

Whatcom County Planning and Development: the Lummi Island Subarea Plan will need to be updated in June of 2025 according to the WA State Dept of Commerce Growth Management Planning folks ([website here](#)).

NOTE: You can access free online videos about the process for growth management [from this link](#). It is a Washington State Department of Commerce resource.

The GMA calls for communities to review and, if necessary, revise their plans and regulations every ten years to ensure they remain up-to-date. Lane sent email to the County Planning and Development Dept on 2022/11/25 to ask when our plan would be updated and asking for next steps in the process. Their response, with my emphasis in red:

We will be updating the [Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan](#) by the 2025 deadline as required by the State Growth Management Act. The County **may conduct a consistency review** of the Subarea Plan to ensure there are no significant inconsistencies between it and the Countywide Comprehensive Plan. But a full update of the Subarea Plan is not anticipated in the next few years.

**** LANE STRONGLY SUGGESTS ... I think we need to review the [Lummi Island Subarea Plan from 2009](#) and identify the key data sets that **must** be updated for 2020(+/-) if we are to have any realistic projections for the next 20 years. For example, Table 1 shown below is now missing **two decades** of data.**

**Table 1
Housing Stock Age Distribution**

Year Housing Units Built	Percent (%) of Total Housing Stock
1990-2000	28%
1980-1989	12%
1970-1979	22%
1960-1969	14%
1940-1949	12%
Prior to 1940	12%

Source: Whatcom County Assessor 2002

Lummi Nation Natural Resources: Terry can ask her contact to chat and see if we can get a discussion started. We should do this as soon as is practical.

State level representatives – consider a campaign to reach out to Sharon Shewmake, Alicia Rule, Susan Delbene, etc.

Alternate sources of funding – begin researching. One idea for a small grant is an [AARP grant for livable communities](#).

GOAL 2: Build community engagement and broaden outreach/distribution of information

Planned (☐) and Completed (☑) Actions

- A. Create and maintain a PDAC Frequently-Asked Questions on [OurLummiIsland.org](#) for (FAQs)
 - June 2022: Published first set of FAQ's and will add section
 - November 2022: update FAQ with PRA grant by description
 - January 2023: revisit when we find out about PRA grant

- B. Host information session(s):
 - Late January-early February 2023: Schedule a Town Hall via hybrid Zoom + in-person at the Grange
 - July or August 2023 – also schedule a town hall during summer to capture those who are not here all year

- C. Collect input from island business people, vendors, artists, etc. *(date TBD based on grant status)*
 - Solicited several candidates during public booth interactions
 - Begin to draft ideas and reach out to key individuals
 - Follow up in with Nick, etc.

- D. Hold community workshops to discuss and brainstorm *(date TBD based on grant decision)*
 - February-March 2023: Propose starting these right after Town Meeting to keep momentum going
 - Discuss best way to hold workshops, topics, ideas, etc. after grant decision
 - Talk about use of a facilitator and/or moderator to help manage discussion, ensure equal opportunity to speak, etc. Lane talked to several candidates during summer outreach efforts including Olivia Marshall, Wanda Cucinotta, and Debbie Barnes-Josiah.

- E. Start creating a plan to engage island and local youth *(date TBD based on grant status)*