

**Public Dock Advisory Committee Minutes and Action Items for May 23, 2023  
7:00-8:30 PM via Zoom**

**PRESENT:** Mary Ross, Chris Immer, Dave Perry, Lane Davis-Coury (notes by Lane)

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

Documents for the grant application on [LICA.us](http://LICA.us) under the PDAC page: [cover letter with project description](#); [letter of intent](#); [location map](#), and [budget summary](#).

**STATUS: LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN AS LAST CHANCE FOR 2022 GRANT OPPORTUNITY**

PDAC embarked on a flurry of emails to see if we could persuade our legislators to support an initiative to fund all of the projects requested during the PRA grant cycle.

**SUCCESS!** On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, RCO announced that the planning grant received an additional \$5 million. Link to page announcing the grant expansion: <https://rco.wa.gov/state-awards-recreation-planning-grants/>

**STATUS: COMMUNICATIONS WITH CHAMPIONS AND POTENTIAL PARTNERS**

- Mary points out that step 1 will be meeting with Bennett and his staff to discuss.
- Identify a champion within the rec community.
- When should we schedule presentation at Commissioner meeting?
- Ask Bennett what steps we can begin with the project and what role they will play

**CAMPAIGN TO GET TOGETHER OUR REVOLVING FUND/BRIDGE LOAN FOR REIMBURSEMENT**

- Need to find a way to raise \$25-30K seed money that we have ON HAND to pay for the first tasks
- Talk with banks and figure out a plan to get the word out to islanders
- MUST BE VERY CAREFUL with LICA accounting and be in compliance with all tax laws for non-profits

**PARKING AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY**

- Parks & Rec – KPFF – DPW working together
- Analyze to determine what is appropriate number of parking spaces we would need to provide
- Bank stabilization issue has been raised
- Power pole on south boundary does appear to be on Parks & Rec property

**BEACH STAIR ACCESS ideas to brainstorm**

- Need to find out if P&R is willing to give up the stairs
- Removing stair would increase security for local landowners
- there are no signs indicating private property boundaries now. Should we set an objective to talk with Parks & Rec about replacing them?

## RECRUIT MORE PROJECT PLAYERS

- Will be much easier once we have a go-forward plan

## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Dave Perry has done lots of research on docks around the islands – showed Snug Harbor as an example from [TransPac Marinas](#)
- Dog-friendly docks are rare because the dock surfaces that are eel-friendly provide a harsh texture for dog paws

## COMMUNICATING GRANT STATUS TO CHAMPIONS

**May 24, 2023** - LICA was awarded a Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) PLANNING grant to research a public dock. This \$103,450 reimbursement grant enables the entire community to discuss all of the options, pros, cons, constraints, etc. over the next 18 months. We will work with marine engineers to draft concept diagrams and cost estimates. At the end of the study period, we will have an island-wide vote on what to do next.

## RECIPIENTS with Organization – Contact Name – Contact Title

1. Blaine-Birch Bay Parks and Rec District - **Ted Morris**, Capital Project Specialist
  2. Drayton Archaeology / cultural resources consultants - **Garth Baldwin**, Archaeologist
  3. KPFF Consultant Engineers / engineering consultants – **Kelly Lasoing**, Planner and **Andy Bennett**, Principal Engineer
  4. Marine Surveys & Assessments / eelgrass consultants - **Kimberly McClurg**
  5. Whatcom County Executive Office - **Tyler Schroeder**, Deputy Executive
  6. Whatcom County Parks & Recreation - **Bennett Knox**, Parks Director
- \* Terry Terry sent an email informing us that the P&R Commission is focusing their efforts on the update of the *2016 Whatcom County Comprehensive Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan*. **It is a unanimous opinion that the Public Dock Project needs to be in the updated Plan.** (That is very good news.)