

AICAB MEETING MINUTES
July 13, 2017 @ Anderson Island Community Club

Members Present:

Joe Howells, Carol Paschal, Pat Owen, Buzz Thome, Dave Albertson, Lauren Kirby, Elizabeth Emerick, Bob Lyden, & Larry Nelson; Absent: Chris Frye

Call to Order and Verification of Quorum:

The regular session was called to order by Chair Joe at approximately 6:30pm and a quorum was declared. The pledge of Allegiance was observed.

Adoption of Agenda:

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to approve the agenda with the adjustments.

Adoption of Minutes:

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to approve the April minutes as written.

Treasurers report

Carol Paschal – We have \$577.48 in the bank account. Service charges are continuing, increased to \$8 due to request for paper statements. She sent a letter to IRS last month asking for tax ID number so we can switch banks.

Joe – Doug Richardson asked that he let everyone know that the council is holding their in district meeting on August 31st at 6pm at the archival building. The entire council will be there as well as the Pierce County television reporting group.

Old Business:

Ferry line etiquette language and adoption – Lauren and Dave agree we cannot proceed with this until we get feedback from Lauren and HMS as to their willingness to participate. A quick synopsis was given for the audience of what was discussed at the last meeting. Intent is to publish and have readily available to the public to alleviate the yearly debate of whether or not to fill the gap and the proper way to load the ferry. Possible PC ordinance needed.

Transmission reduction gears update: Bob –there was a meeting between Brian Ziegler and Elliot Bay design group, and the manufacturer. The manufacturer said that they would provide a \$20,000 credit next time the boat needs work. Bob is trying to team up with the Tug boat company that had the same failures with two of their gears at the same time so they can go after the \$400,000+ it cost the county.

Ticket system breach update – Allowed everybody to get credit checks, and considering going against the company that is responsible for the software that had the breach. The cost of the credit checks is half of what they thought it would be.

Carol– Amendments needed to the minutes for the park board numbers quoted.

Buzz – issues of empty gas cans on the ferry. New never used gas cans are permitted on the ferry. Used gas cans empty or otherwise are not permitted on the ferry. Second issue is commuter tickets with times shown for expiring. The times need to be removed as they tickets are good thru the end of the day regardless of what time they were purchased. He has talked with Lauren about it already.

New Business:

Park Board Levy – Chuck Hinds speaking on behalf of the parks department – Park board is requesting a 50 cents per thousand for maintenance. Parks are funded by the levy and the residents. The levy will run for 6 years and will be used for maintenance, insurance, etc. education throughout the parks. Relying on a lot of donated time to help with legal issues, financial responsibility, etc. and looking to be able to hire professionals for these purposes as well. Used to get 40 cents per thousand and after the economy crash they dropped it down to 30 cents per thousand. They have added 145 acres and three miles of trails since 2010, doubling in size. They are also required to pay prevailing wage rates by the state.

Keeping the parks helps to provide things to do for residents on the island that are free and readily available.

Buzz – did you look at the fact the assessed values are going up, and historically levy rates drop as values increase.

Margret – the sounder does not want to be a forum for debate on any issues, however the parks department and the fire department have been asked to provide information.

Bruce – feels it is important for people to understand that the rate was dropped during the recession, and should be reminded of this fact. Do you expect a lot of resistance?

Chuck – thinks that the majority of people are in favor.

Dave – does not feel we are not going to have a problem getting the votes needed, we need 197 yes votes

Bixler - Permanent levy or does it have to be renewed every six years? Fire department used to have a renewable levy and went to a permanent levy. Might be worth considering

Fire Department Bond – Chief Bixler: 4th of July, were a little busy, 14 calls over the long weekend. No issues on Villa Beach Rd. It is allowed as it is easier to control. There was one altercation with a homeowner and kids on Villa Beach and one fire late that night at a residence as well as damage to the fire truck from fireworks debris.

Carol-had concern over Chinese lantern that went over their house.

Chief – believes Chinese lanterns have actually been outlawed.

The fire department is going for a bond, not a levy. Last bond was 45 cents per thousand and expired this year and ran for 15 years. Spend a lot less on training, and work to purchase used equipment which is a big savings for the department. Sometimes have been able to sell equipment for more than what it was purchased for. Reserve fund is used for large purchases and like to keep a minimum amount for emergency repair or incase hiring out for something like a water drop for a wildland fire is required. The fund is down to \$155,000. Safety equipment for personal equipment must be replaced every ten years by federal law. The costs for this equipment has been sky rocketing. The new dispatch system is 28,000 up from 7,700 per year.

On average the department has had about 36 volunteers in the past. However, the concept of volunteers is declining throughout the country. Right now we are down to 22 volunteers and realistically 8-10 do all the work. The department is considering converting a portion of the station to living quarters to be able to offer students a place to stay that are working to get into the field and in return they offer their time to run calls on nights and weekends.

Some of the other items: culvert in front of the fire station has to be redone as it has failed which will require all the front drive to be redone. They also would like to add concrete in back training grounds. Want to build another garage for storage for extra equipment, etc. They are also considering loaning our second fire boat out to neighboring departments for a monthly fee.

The bond will go to replacing breathing apparatuses and personal fire protection equipment

Amy - Some of the larger departments are looking to start putting bullet proof vests on first, hoping that it doesn't come to that here.

Chief – thinks at some point this will be a mandate which will force us to abide by it just like the larger departments.

FTE – full time employee, minimum 8 people needed, minimum of one million annually for this.

This new bond is proposition 1: 960,000 over a ten year period, 43 cents per thousand, which is actually less than what was being paid last year.

Chuck – have you made it aware that this is a replacement of the last bond that just expired? These things need to be made aware of. Ballots should be arriving Friday and Saturday

Buzz – anybody that has a senior citizen exemption, this will not affect.

Chief – professional opinion, just wants to see everyone vote

Discussion:

Amy – ferry districting – what happened with that? Joe – it didn't pass

Amy – has a projector that is available for use if we ever need it.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm