

**AICAB REGULAR MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES**  
**November 8, 2013 @ Anderson Island Community Clubhouse**  
**(AICAB Approved)**

**Present:** Chair Joe Howells, Vice-Chair Carol Pascal, Treasurer Ann Dasch, Secretary Dave Jacobsen, Ed Stephenson, Dr. Charlene Holt, Pat Owen.

**Call to Order and Verification of Quorum:** The Secretary called the roll and the Chair excused members Woolley, B. Sullivan and R. Sullivan. A quorum was confirmed and the Regular Meeting was called to order by the Chair at approximately 7:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was observed.

**Adoption of Agenda:** Member Paschal requested that an additional item, “Traffic Safety Issue”, be added under new business. It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to adopt the proposed meeting agenda with that addition.

The Chair expressed a thank you to the Tanner Electric Cooperative crew for the outstanding job they did during the recent power outage. The members and audience expressed their concurrence with a round of applause. The Chair noted that this coming Monday is Veterans Day, and he asked that the military veterans in the room stand to be recognized with a round of applause. Each veteran then stated his or her name and branch of service.

**Approval of Prior Meetings Minutes:**

It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2013 Regular Meeting as written.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the September 6, 2013 Special Meeting as written.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously agreed to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2013 Special Meeting as written.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Dasch reported that the current checkbook balance is \$650.45.

**Business Community Liaison’s Report:** Member Jacobsen summarized current events and concerns shared by members of the Island business community. Real estate sales are twice what they were last year and house prices throughout the County are up by about 10 percent. Planning for the County’s tourism program utilizing the idle ferry will be getting underway next week. There is a new Anderson Island map available at the Museum Store and the Island General Store. Special thanks to Nori Hashibe for the graphics work. A significant concern is with the condition and status of our electronic communications infrastructure. Unregistered and unlicensed contractors working on the Island remain a concern. There is concern that we may not be ready, particularly from a transportation standpoint for the tourist impact around the 2015 U.S. Open Golf Championship at Chambers Creek. With John Bair’s departure, AICAB will be the interface with the County on road issues.

**Ferry System Liaison's Report:** Member Dasch noted that the Pierce County Ferry Committee has not met since the last AICAB meeting. From information posted on the County's website, it appears ridership through September is down a bit from last year – although there may be some missing ridership data. Both Vehicles Left Behind and Delays are up. The County Council is still reviewing the current proposal for 2014-15 fare increases.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Update on Dumping Between Anderson and Ketron.** Chairman Howells noted that he had been in communication with the Department of Natural Resources regarding the status of dredge material dumping in the deep water trench between Anderson and Ketron Islands. The notice from DNR indicates that dredging of the Olympia Yacht Club site will begin about December 4<sup>th</sup> and be completed by January 31, 2014. Contaminated materials will be dredged first and will be disposed in an uplands site. When dredge material dumping between the Islands commences, it is expected that will occur during nighttime hours as the actual dredging must occur during daytime hours. The activity will be monitored by the Coast Guard. It is expected that there will be 20 disposals at the site. The Chair invited Bob Lyden to comment on his findings on the preparations for the dumping.

Mr. Lyden serves on the Coast Guard sponsored "Puget Sound Watch" program, which monitors the Sound for emergencies and polluting activities. Studies were done in 1989 and 2005 on the impact of dredge material dumping at the Anderson-Ketron site, and that noted the decline of certain sea life in the specific dredge site. The Nisqually Aquatic Reserve group has also done more recent investigations on the "sand waves" near the site. We are waiting on a meeting with DNR to review in detail the plan and its expected environmental impacts. The area is classified as a "low dispersal" area because of presumed low current rates, but there is skepticism that stronger currents are actually present. To minimize the potential for sediment dispersal, the suggestion to only dump at slack tide has been made to the DNR, but no answer has been received back yet. Member Holt asked how they verify that the material is not toxic, and Mr. Lyden indicated that samples are sent to several labs for analysis. Member Paschal noted that she was on the committee working on the formation of the Aquatic Reserve, and a conscious decision was made not to insist on the ending of "existing uses" such as dredge dumping and commercial shellfish activities in order to avoid strong opposition for the overall plan for the Reserve. AICAB will continue to monitor and report on the activity.

**Update on Island Helicopter Flyovers.** The Chair noted that Joint Base Lewis McChord did move the helicopter holding pattern to over McNeil Island in May after conferring with the State. However, there are still questions about some continuing flyovers, so Chairman Howells contacted the base again, and was advised that while the general pattern has been shifted to McNeil, the area above Anderson Island is still open air space and will be used from time to time by both civilian and military aircraft. If there are specific concerns about specific violations of regulations, they can be taken forward, but will require specific factual information, not just opinion.

**Update on Revisions to the Shoreline Master Plan.** The Chair noted the previous big turnout for the County's review of proposed changes to the Shoreline Master Plan and the concerns expressed over proposed changes in setbacks and view corridors. He requested a summary in laymen's terms of the changes that have taken place, and received a response from Debbie Hyde. The County used a consulting firm to assist in strengthening the County's response to the Department of Ecology's concern that the County's updates do not go far enough. One suggested change is to map upland wetlands that are

connected by flow to waterfront so that connection does not get missed in subsequent shoreline action reviews. Another suggestion is to reduce the number of options in the County code for reducing the size of the waterfront buffer.

Update on McNeil Island Future Use Plans. The Chair indicated that Dave McGoldrick, the AICAB liaison on this subject, has not heard anything new since the last report he gave to AICAB.

**New Business:**

Discussion of Community Concerns Regarding AICAB Membership Composition and Island Representation. Chairman Howells asked that this discussion not become personal. We can disagree, but “let’s not take up another person’s offense”. This will be just a discussion, no action will be taken at this time. The Chair turned the floor over to member Dasch to moderate the discussion about specific concerns.

Member Dasch indicated that she has been uncertain that AICAB fulfills its By-Laws stated goal to “faithfully convey island viewpoints and opinions, including minority views, on significant issues affecting Anderson Island.” Other Islanders worry about this too when AICAB is an un-elected, quasi-governmental group that may not reflect the diversity of the Island population as a whole. A small group addressed these concerns in person to Councilman Richardson, who referred them back to AICAB to address the concerns. In particular, the group felt that commuters, small business owners and “those of modest means” are underrepresented on AICAB. Member Dasch indicated that some feel that the method of appointment wherein you have to be nominated by one of the ten major community organizations on the Island may be skewing the membership. Direct, community-wide appointment could yield more diversity. Four year terms may be discouraging some individuals who would be interested in serving but who may not be willing or able to commit to four years. The By-Laws could be better written to provide better recourse to citizens if they feel they are not adequately served. More of a “town hall” format without AICAB voting on a majority view may provide more diversity in the information going to the County. Suggestions include shorter terms and different organizations nominating or an open nominating process.

Steven King added that his primary concern is the potential obstacle to membership diversity the current process of using Island organizations for AICAB nominations presents. Retirees do not struggle with the issues of the daily commute, including the cost. Member Stephenson noted that the use of the Island organizations to nominate to AICAB was actually intended to increase the diversity of representation and to bring the broadest perspective and knowledge of Island needs together. Roland Checketts asked what organizations were included in the nominating process and what other organizations could potentially be involved? Secretary Jacobsen read the list of the ten nominating organizations from the By-Laws. The Board and audience suggested non-religious organizations that could be involved include Red Hat, American Legion, Young Life, Lois Scholl Society, and the Yacht Club. It was noted that there is no prohibition on anyone going to any of these organizations and expressing an interest in being nominated. Three existing member terms are ending in 2014. Jan Wepfer stated that he wouldn’t want to see membership change, except maybe to include a member nominated by the American Legion Post. Rick Anderson stated that he helped design AICAB and the County was looking for a rational, cohesive way to get input from the Island. It was intended that you would act in the best interest of the community as a whole. He also feels AICAB does a “great job”, but he would welcome expansion to include the American Legion. Anthony Tognazzini reiterated that AICAB members act independently of the

nominating organizations. Frank Purple noted that in the past Islanders spent a lot of time going to various government organizations, and while they heard a lot of promises, they got little else. AICAB now has significant influence, and its best to keep that working for the Island. “They have done a tremendous job”. Chuck Hinds noted he was on the original AICAB, and he feels the challenge will always be for those that work fulltime to find the time to be as fully involved as organizations like AICAB require. Jason Stencliff commutes everyday and doesn’t belong to any Island organizations, but if he has a concern he realizes he can go to any member of AICAB because each member represents the entire Island.

Chris Frye, who is new to the Island, expressed concern that the newcomers may not welcome here. Chairman Howells noted that when you come out to live on the Island, you have to take into account the real costs of living on an island, the most notable of which is transportation. What sacrifices are we willing to make to live in this wonderful place? Besides the ferry, what are the things that AICAB is not addressing? Lee Schauf suggests don’t just complain – take the time to get involved. Rick Anderson noted he commuted for over 20 years to work from the Island, and has never heard anyone say working families are not welcome here. Member Dasch noted that 20 percent of the Islanders are renters. Member Paschal reminded everyone that first the County had to pass a ferry budget that will cover costs, and the commuter’s petition was asking for a fare decrease. Roland Checketts expressed concern that the subcommittee’s recommendations didn’t get much attention. Member Jacobsen noted that “no fare increases” was not a realistic or supportable recommendation. Terry Sleight expressed concern that the ferry tourism excursions won’t work financially. The Chair cited examples of at least 15 recent forums that were well attended, and noted that much of By-Laws are codified in County Ordinance. Earl Strausbaugh suggested that this a perception issue, and he encouraged AICAB to look for opportunities to increase involvement and participation.

The Chair asked for a show of hands of those who thought it is a good idea to ask that the American Legion be added as a nominating organization AICAB membership. A clear majority in the room indicated that they did. The Chair asked for a show of hands of those who though the length of member terms should be reduced. A small percentage indicated support for this idea. The Chair asked for a show of hands of those who felt a different meeting date and/or time, which is not specified in County Code, would make a positive difference in attendance and participation. Less than a majority of those in the room raised their hands.

Island new-comer Kristie Flournoy indicated this meeting had positively changed her point of view, as she feels they are being listened too in this meeting.

Discussion on Special Meeting for Elections and 2014 Budget Request. The Chair noted that while our By-Laws refer to the election of officers and the approval of the recommended budget request occurring at a December meeting, such a meeting would be a Special Meeting for that purpose only. As we have a slate of candidates and a proposed budget available at this time, the Chair suggested we take action on these two items at tonight’s meeting, thereby eliminating the need to meet in December. The reference to the December meeting is not found in the County Code, and Roberts Rules of Order provide that we can wave a provision if there is unanimous agreement to do so, or conversely if a super majority agrees to do so. A motion was made and seconded to suspend the rules to take up the election of officers and approval of the budget request tonight and thereby eliminate the need for a Special Meeting in December. The motion passed with no objections.

Election of Officers for 2014. The Secretary noted that he and Bobbi Sullivan had served as the nominating committee, and that they had communicated with each and every Board member on interest in serving as an officer for 2014. A slate of individuals willing and able to serve has been prepared. At this point there is only one candidate declared for each of the four offices as follows:

Chair, Joe Howells  
Vice Chair, Carol Paschal  
Secretary, Dave Jacobsen  
Treasurer, Rich Sullivan

The Chair called for additional nominations, and none were proffered. Noting that there is only one candidate for each Officer position, the Chair called for a motion to accept the entire slate of candidates as presented. It was so moved by member Stephenson and seconded by member Dasch. Without further discussion, the motion was unanimously approved without dissent.

Approval of 2014 Budget Request. The Chair asked Treasurer Dasch to present the proposed budget recommendation for 2014. The proposal is to submit an identical request for 2014 as that approved for 2013. It was moved by member Paschal and seconded by member Holt to approve the request as presented. The motion was approved without dissent.

Other -Traffic Safety Issue. Member Paschal noted that while there is an established “No Parking” zone along both sides of Villa Beach Road adjacent to the Anderson Island ferry dock, vehicles frequently stop there to drop off or pick up ferry passengers. Because of the narrow shoulders, this effectively reduces Villa Beach Road to one very narrow path down the middle of the road for traffic. This is not safe for vehicles or foot traffic in the area. Member Jacobsen explained that State law separately defines “parking”, “standing” and “stopping”, and that there is a belief by some that if they remain in the vehicle, they are not in violation of the “No Parking” requirement. Member Jacobsen will take the concern to the County for consideration of alternatives.

The Chair dissolved all 2013 committees including the Ferry Issues Study Committee, The Firearm and Wildlife Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the By-Laws Committee. New Committee assignments may be made at the January, 2014 Regular Meeting of AICAB.

**Issues and Comments for the Floor:**

Members of the Booster Club thanked member Dasch personally and AICAB generally for their service.

**Announcements and Adjournment:**

It was announced that the Steilacoom School District will be at January meeting to talk about their proposed Operations and Maintenance levy that will be before voters in February.

It was announced that there will be a Park & Recreation District work party for School house Creek restoration on Saturday, November 16th.

The AICAB November 8, 2013 Regular Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at approximately 9:06 p.m.