

# Draft Minutes

## VMICC Board Meeting

### March 2, 2009

In attendance: Jean Bosch, Kyle Cruver, Hilary Emmer, Jack Barbash, Melodie Woods, Bill Tobin, Jolene Lamb, Ian Burke, Hubert Herring

Guests: Neal Phillips, Tom Bangasser, Susan Tobin, Maeve Lambert, Tim Morrison, Gary Sipple, Kari Ulatoski

Jean called meeting to order at 7:20

Jean noted email received today by Elizabeth DuBois (DuBois Consulting), a consultant to King County, requesting UAC feedback to her questionnaire regarding governance and County planning. Question was raised, how do we respond adequately in the short time frame allowed and having been given no forewarning? Suggested we ask for specific questions to respond to. (Another survey, perhaps? -kc)

Fire Commissioner Neal Phillips was introduced to the board, and discussed his intent to create an opportunity for dialogue at our upcoming VMICC general meeting regarding the recent discrimination lawsuit involving VIFR. He'd like to introduce the new fire chief, Hank Lipe, make a general statement with some Q&A, then create the option for a large-forum discussion on the topic in the future.

Transportation Committee chair Kari Ulatoski talked at length about her frustration with getting participation in ferry service advocacy. Recent trip to Olympia had only 80 participants from Vashon, out of a total group of perhaps 300. Not enough!

She is very concerned about the lack of personal involvement from the island. At stake is the downgrading of service that constitutes the lifeline for islanders. Under consideration is the new passenger replacement boat, with a capacity of 150 versus the current capacity of 250. Will dozens of commuters be left at the dock?

Melodie discussed the upcoming April meeting visit by KC Councilmember Julia Patterson, who is in charge of the Rural Economic Strategies Update. Would welcome input from islanders in advance: home-based business owners, etc.

Land Use Committee chair Melodie will table her water catchment motion pending further discussion within the committee. She will be resigning as chair, and working instead on the Town Plan. Many of her most active participant will be following her, due to shared interest in this effort.

Jean noted that the liquor store is closing on the island, with a 30-day window for someone to pick up the license. Jean at Movie Magic has expressed interest and asked VMICC to act as a reference on her behalf. She may make a presentation to us.

Melodie brought up the topic of the software Constant Contact, which she'd like to buy for VMICC outreach efforts. Cost is \$30 per month for up to 2500 emails. Is in discussion with Dan Schueller regarding website updates, and may look to do a RFP for a new design/management solution that allows us better access and more immediacy. Introduced motion to purchase the software for 1 year, which passed unanimously. Noted great job that was done on the Vashonforschools.org website by a local programmer.

Transportation chair Kari implored board members and others to go to Olympia to advocate for the ferries. Write a letter to the editor. Outreach to Transportation Committee members in the Legislature. Help promote Plan C.

Tim Morrison reported on progress with the library survey commissioned by VMICC and funded by Dow Constantine's office. Survey is ready for printing, a compromise, but hopefully useful. It will be sent to every registered voter on the island, giving a "big picture" of what folks want.

Melodie noted interest by Julia Patterson (Rural Economic Strategies) for commentary and insight on local tourism, commercial, industrial and home-based business efforts here. What's working, what are folks up to? Ian pointed out Katherine Fitch's Sustainable Tourism effort here on Vashon.

Sustainable Practices chair Kyle is focusing on "workshop" based events in his committee. This Thursday, their building worm bins and birdhouses. Jean noted the effort for Purple Martin (a threatened species) houses, placed on pilings on the waterfront.

Public Safety Committee is focusing on off-leash dogs, potential creation of an off-leash dog park, and A-board in the right-of-way in town.

Hubert reported on his barter committee efforts. Had a bill for \$275 for reimbursement. It was noted that proper procedure is that each committee may spend up to \$100 without prior board approval. Motion to reimburse Hubert was passed. Materials (books, CD) that he purchased will be made available to the public at meetings and the library.

There was discussion regarding the \$500 that VMICC offered the Transportation Committee (Gary Sipple) for its trip to Olympia. Intent was that the funds would be used only if other funding were insufficient to cover expenses. Is this the case? Will need to establish proper protocol for who collects funds and where they are deposited. Hilary will research emails and bylaws, Jolene will talk with Gary about how things were done, Hilary or Jean will contact Governance & Policy committee to amend procedure to ensure transparency in future.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Cruver