

Minutes for HICA Regular Board Meeting on 3/21/2020

Darla Younce, Board President, called the telephonic meeting to order at 10:30 A.M. Present were Erik Smith, Vice President, Kurt Kassahn, Treasurer, Scott Holte, Secretary, and Paula Bafaro, Kevin Smith and Udo Gerz, Trustees. Also present was Kim Gleason, Island Manager.

Darla asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on 2/15/2020. Paula so moved and Erik seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

President's Report: We believe that this is the first completely telephonic meeting for Hat Island. It may not be the last. Let's hope the communication is clear. Any questions and/or comments during Community Input will be via email at hioffice@hatisland.com. We'll do our best to respond in real time. We sincerely hope you, your family and friends are healthy and staying safe in these uncertain times. COVID- 19 is with us and continues to be a major health threat to all. Please wash your hands and stay home if you are ill.

Our island employees are taking steps to limit exposure to the virus. Some are working from home, but others have no choice but to be in the field and on site. If you need assistance from someone on staff, please call the office and make an appointment.

The ferry crew are sanitizing all touched surfaces, including handrails, before and after each sailing. Please, while on board keep the required social distance of six feet from others as much as possible. Do **not** ride the ferry at all if you are ill. Shane Dunn is now on board as our full time Ferry Captain. Shane is not new to Hat Island, having previously captained both the Hat Express and the Elsie landing craft. We are lucky and so happy to have Shane back! Please say hi when you travel on the ferry.

Legal update: In both the Surowiecki and Division J appeals, the Court of Appeals scheduled a new date for oral argument in April, but, then cancelled it because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Island Manager's Report: What an interesting time we are living in! For the most part we are protected on Hat Island. Even on a summer day in the middle of summer we are able to self-distance, but only if we follow the requirement to do so. We are not immune to what is happening on the mainland, but we are doing everything we can to keep our islanders safe and protected.

Although you've heard it over and over - one more time - **WASH YOUR HANDS PLEASE!**

With all the changes that are taking place in the world due to COVID-19 our marina is starting to look more like summertime. It is fuller than a normal March week. In effect, it looks like summer has come early to Hat Island.

We are extremely happy to report the sea wall failure at the intersection of Conwell Park and Division H has been repaired. The maintenance team has all the equipment tuned up and ready for the summer season, and the golf course is looking great.

Soon we will send out information on a VHF channel we will use for monitoring boat traffic. Our hope is that as you come into the marina you can radio the Harbor Master and she can direct you to an open spot to moor.

It's business as usual in the office. The end of a quarter is always a busy time. Thank you to all who have sent in your assessments. Remember the first quarter assessments are due on March 31st. Also, while the office isn't open for a walk in - you can always use the phone. We love to hear from you and hope you all are doing well.

As a final note: In the midst of all of this I want to take the time to reflect on Mike McCarthy's passing. We all miss him terribly, but remember what a kind and caring friend he was to us all. Pam sends her thanks to the Hat Island Community for all the cards, remembrances and kind wishes.

Darla then called for committee reports.

Kurt Kassahn gave the Treasurer's Report, which is attached.

Kurt also presented a Water Update, which is attached.

Udo presented a Vessel Committee report on the status of the new ferry, which is attached,

Darla presented a Golf Committee Report from Bruce Kolpack, which is attached.

There being no further committee reports, Darla read Community Input email questions:

Bill Townsend and Sharron Meadows asked who would be making the determination of how high trees will be trimmed on the golf course as mentioned in the Golf Committee Report?

Answer: Brad Tinius will make those determinations.

Tom O'Day inquired about guest golf tournaments on Saturdays, who to ask for permission?

Answer: Permission normally has to come from the Golf Committee and the Island Manager, but the Board will be addressing this and other issues in executive session given the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Brad Tinius stated that he was withdrawing his request for a leave of absence as greens keeper.

There being no further business, Darla called for a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters, with a reconvening back into regular session at noon to announce board actions, if any. Scott so moved and Kevin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 A.M.

The HICA Board reconvened into Regular Session at 12:04 P.M., with all Board members present.

The Board has been addressing a proposed settlement with the Plaintiffs in the Division H lawsuit for some time. A mediation attended by Board member representatives with counsel, and by a number of Division H members in person and by proxy, with counsel resulted in a draft settlement agreement, which has undergone negotiated clarifications. The Board is now ready to announce approval of the settlement. Scott Holte moved and Kevin Smith seconded the motion as follows:

The Board of Trustees has approved entering into a settlement agreement regarding the Division H lawsuit on the terms consistent with those communicated through counsel for HICA and Division H Owners. Final approval and execution of the Agreement is subject to the Board finding that, at a minimum, all the Division H owners who appeared at the mediation in person or by proxy, including those through Powers of Attorney, will approve the settlement and will participate to make the CR2(a) Agreement viable going forward.

The motion passed unanimously.

Udo moved and Kurt seconded the motion for the Association to waive all late fees and penalties for late car parking in the parking lot until May 31st, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

Darla then called for a motion to adjourn. Erik so moved, Kurt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Holte, Secretary*

*The Board minutes are not intended to record verbatim all that was said at the meeting, but do contain all actions taken by the Board of Trustees.