

Minutes of the HICA Special Board Meeting on 3/26/2020

Darla Younce, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M. Present were Erik Smith, Vice President, Kurt Kassahn, Treasurer, Scott Holte, Secretary, and Paula Bafaro, Udo Gerz, and Kevin Smith, Trustees. Also present was Kim Gleason, Island Manager.

Darla explained the purpose of the Special meeting was to discuss issues involved in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in particular the Governor of the State of Washington's shelter in place proclamation. She talked about the Board's recent decision to limit ferry passengers to owners, including spouses, domestic partners and dependent children and other dependents living in the same household; and the 25 passenger limit per ferry run, with the required social distancing.

Additional issues involving safety and health have been brought to the Board's attention, including camping and other activities in the common areas of the Association. Darla called for a motion to address these issues, and if seconded, a discussion by the Board before a vote.

A motion was made and seconded, followed by a Board discussion addressing multiple matters. Following the discussion friendly amendments to the motion were accepted, with Scott making a revised motion as follows:

The Board of Trustees hereby adopts a policy to keep Hat Island in compliance with the State of Washington's shelter in place proclamation, until further notice, including the following specifics:

No camping will be allowed on Association property, including the Commons, and no camping allowed on any Hat Island property.

No transient or guest moorage will be allowed in the marina.

The playground, the Commons bathroom and golf course bathrooms are closed until further notice.

The Board grants the Island Manager the discretion to close any other public areas, including the tennis courts, if she deems it necessary to protect the health and safety of the Community.

Udo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Udo also summarized for the Community his recent discussions with Armstrong Boat Builders. Armstrong, in compliance with the Governor's proclamation and to protect its workers, has suspended all operations, including construction of our new ferry. Udo will continue to communicate with Armstrong and report to the Board.

Several Community members asked questions via email:

What about limiting occupation of the island to those whose primary residence is on the island? That question has been discussed with legal counsel, and the answer is that the Association cannot do that legally. From a common sense perspective, owners can come and enjoy their private property, while observing healthy and safe requirements.

Another question asked if there were any sanitary precautions being taken for things like the handles on the dock carts. Kim responded that she and the staff are doing their best to wipe all surfaces including the dock cart handles with a bleach and water solution.

One member asked why can't we initiate a reservation system for the ferry, especially for those who travel a long distance to be then told they can't board? Udo answered that Craig Harris has been working and will continue to research a reservation system, but it will cost money, which will probably be added to the price of a ticket. Kim added that the square system has been used for the trips to Langley, but it has limitations. She will see if it's feasible to try for our regular runs.

There were no further questions. Scott moved to adjourn the meeting. Kurt seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Holte, Secretary*

*These minutes are not intended as a verbatim record of the meeting, but do contain all actions taken by the Board.