



MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE DRAFT SUMMARY

December 6, 2018

In Attendance: Eleanor Hines (Chair), Kristin Murray (Co-Chair), Austin Rose (Staff), Robin Klein (Staff), Bob Seaman, Elizabeth Kilanowski, Bob Cecile, Atina Casas, Elizabeth Kilanowski, Chris Brown, Glen "Alex" Alexander, Jim Hanson, Pete Sim, Ryan McLaughlin,

Others: Brooke Love, Molly Harding

- 1) **Introductions:** Eleanor began the meeting with roundtable introductions.
- 2) **December Agenda:** Approved
- 3) **November Meeting Summary:** Approved.
- 4) **Public Comment Period**
- 5) **MRC Officer Elections**—The following people were unanimously voted into the 2019 MRC Officer positions
 - Chair—Eleanor Hines
 - Vice Chair—Kristin Murray
 - NW Straits Committee Rep—Bob Cecile
 - NW Straits Alternate—Pete Granger (Pete was not present)
- 6) **Collaboration with Huxley College:** Dr. Brooke Love
 - Students from Marine Conservation course are required to develop a project proposal, partnering with a community organization and applying what they have learned.
 - The MRC was asked to think about how it would work for students to engage and be useful for projects the Committee is currently working on.
 - Eleanor asked for volunteers to speak to students in the classroom.
- 7) **MRC Conference Debrief**
 - There was a great deal of interest in the MRC Story Telling session led by Tarrell Kullaway, Northwest Straits Foundation. Tarrell will provide a consolidated session to the MRC at a later time. The MRC thought would be very valuable to establish better communication with County Council members.
 - Some MRC members that left feeling that there should be a critical look at the Northwest Straits Initiative and the work of the MRCs. The marine environment is still in crisis. The conference did not address the tough topics related to the movement of the MRCs.
- 8) **MRC Project Champion Stories**
 - Eleanor and Alex provided their IGNITE presentation on the Olympia oyster project.
- 9) **MRC Subcommittee Updates**
 - **Project Development:** Eleanor mentioned that help is needed for the development of the North Sound Stewards program. There will be an advisory committee meeting soon and an invitation will be sent to the full MRC. Marine Debris was also discussed. Environment Washington is interested in working with the MRC of education and outreach around marine debris. More MRC member help is needed to flesh out ideas. There was a call with WDFW to discuss Cherry Point Herring and artificial spawning nets.
 - **Executive:** Developed the December meeting agenda. Austin provided all of the 2019 meeting dates. There is an opportunity for the MRC to present to the County Council at the Surface Water Work session in February. Austin mentioned that the subcommittee was looking into advertising alternate positions on the MRC, and creating a shorter term options for students.

- **Speaker Series:** Elizabeth mentioned the last speaker series meeting was expanded to include representatives from WWU Salish Sea Institute and Bellingham Technical College. Elizabeth mentioned several topic ideas that were discussed at the meeting and asked MRC members to give input on topics they would like to learn more about.
- **Northwest Straits Commission:** The WebEx conference is scheduled for Dec 7. The presentations from the MRC meeting are uploaded to the Northwest Straits Commission MRC Conference page.
- **Advisory:** Jim asked if the MRC could have a liaison to the Whatcom County Climate Advisory Committee recently developed. The Shoreline Master Plan will soon be updated and Jim will keep the MRC informed about input. Orca Taskforce recommendations were summarized.
- **County Council:** no report.
- **City Council:** no report.

10) Partner Committee Updates:

- **BBAT:** no report.
- **WWIN:** no report.
- **Salmon Recovery:** no report.
- **Port of Bellingham:** no report.

9 Review Action Items and Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

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