



MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE DRAFT SUMMARY

January 3, 2019

In Attendance: Eleanor Hines (Chair), Kristin Murray (Co-Chair), Robin Klein (Staff), Bob Seaman, Bob Cecile, Atina Casas, Chris Brown, Glen "Alex" Alexander, Jim Hanson, Kurt Baumgarten, Ryan McLaughlin,

Others: Dana Oster (NWSC), Lucas Hart (NWSC), Molly Harding

- 1) **Introductions:** Eleanor began the meeting with roundtable introductions.
- 2) **January Agenda:** Approved with note that the Speaker Series on Southern Resident Orcas, January 8, 2019 has been postponed and the Sea Star Wasting Syndrome Monitoring is cancelled due to weather conditions.
- 3) **December Meeting Summary:** Not available and will be presented at next meeting.
- 4) **Public Comment Period**
- 5) **MRC Strategic Plan Overview**—Discussion regarding primary goals and outcomes of the MRC and strategies to implement goals.
 - Look at what can be done, not just what people want to do
 - Avoid being too broad or too specific.
 - Help people become more aware of what MRC does.
 - NW Straits is currently revising 2014-2017 Strategic Plan. Lucas Hart advised that there are not going to be drastic changes.
 - Decide goals as a group. Consider the resources we have and how to use to support our goals.
 - End of year annual report.
 - What does success mean and how is it measured.
 - Check points to measure progress.
 - Eleanor asked members to think about what inspires them to get involved in the MRC and what would make it work better for them.
- 6) **MRC Survey/Poll**—To provide an opportunity to discuss the NWSI structure and MRC project ideas. Kristin and Dana administered the poll and discussed the results with members.
 - Kristin will email Austin the questions so she can distribute so other members can take the poll.
 - Better focus on how MRC can impact the community.
 - How do you know you are making a difference in the community.
 - Most members of the community do not know what the MRC is.
 - What does significant success look like.
 - Expectations of members.
 - Incentives to encourage volunteers.
 - Meeting structure needs to be evaluated.
 - What can be done during down time.
 - Lack of funding for more projects.
 - Are there any local organizations that we can join forces with—brainstorm a list of organizations that we could partner with.
 - A monthly calendar of events so members can plan.

7) MRC Subcommittee Updates

- **Project Development:** Committee did not meet.
- **Executive:** Met and put together the MRC Survey/Poll.
- **Speaker Series:** They are putting together a schedule for the upcoming year. If anyone has any ideas, please contact Eleanor or Austin. The Southern Resident Orcas meeting is postponed due to partial government shutdown.
- **Northwest Straits Commission:** Meeting was December 7th. The Northwest Straits Initiative Retreat is scheduled for March 21-22, 2019. This retreat will include both the Commission and Foundation. Lucas shared that the majority of the funding for the Commission is from the EPA and that money will be continuing. The goal is to get this increased and in legislation so they don't have to keep going back to get money. Representative Larsen asked for budget justification to raise from \$800,000 to 2 million.
- **Advisory:** Jim reported that Bellingham School District is remodeling their bus barn but will not be improving the stormwater situation. There is a community meeting at Garden Street Methodist Church on January 8th. The hope is that the school district can find alternative bus parking.
- **County Council:** No update.
- **City Council:** No update.

8) Partner Committee Updates:

- **BBAT:**
 - Lummi Island Heritage Trust is looking for additional funding for restoration projects.
 - Discussion about herring enclosure
 - Evelyn Brown gave a presentation on light traps for Dungeness crab larva, which are food for salmon.
- **WWIN:** No update.
- **Salmon Recovery:** No update.
- **Port of Bellingham:** Kurt shared the following--
 - Marine Park received damage from the last storm.
 - They are close to having "no Discharge zone" summary of what the Ports efforts are.
 - Kurt can bring other Port staff if anyone wants updates on the waterfront.
 - All American Marine has a project that will need mitigation.
- **County Council:** No update.
- **Cherry Point Implementation Committee:** The Aquatic Reserve management plan will be updated in 2020.

9 Review Action Items and Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.