

ISLAND COUNTY MARINE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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Minutes

Prepared by Kelly Zupich

April 5th, 2022

ZOOM

PRESENT: Barbara Bennett, Chair, presiding, Jill Lipoti, Vice Chair, Scott Chase, Andi Kopit, Hannah Liss, Alexandra Plumb, Elsa Schwartz, Ed Halloran, Jennifer Johnson, IC DNR Manager/Island LIO Coordinator (non-voting), Kelly Zupich, MRC Coordinator (staff), Sarah Ruether IC DNR (staff) **ABSENT:** Gwendolyn Hannam, (notified), Kes Tautvydas, (notified), Melanie Bacon, Island County Commissioner, (unnotified)

VISITORS: Steve Boskovich, Island County member of the public, Dana Oster, Marine Program Manager NWSC, Hiller West, Island County member of the public

CALL TO ORDER: Barbara called the meeting to order at 3:03pm. **INTRODUCTIONS:** Introductions were made. **QUORUM:** A quorum was declared. **AGENDA:** Jill moved to approve the agenda. Hannah seconded. The agenda was approved. **MINUTES:** Jill moved to approve the March 3rd, 2022 minutes. Scott seconded. The minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

TRIBAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the lands we're on today are the ancestral and current homelands of Indigenous Nations who have stewarded them since time immemorial. We respect their sovereignty, support their Treaty rights, their right to self-determination, and we honor their sacred spiritual connection with the land and water. These Indigenous Nations include the Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Nooksack, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Samish, Stillaguamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip Tribes.

LEADERSHIP REPORTS:

Chair: No updates

County Commissioner: Not present

County Lead: No updates

MISSION AND VISION:

The committee discussed the mission and vision that Barbara and Jill drafted for review. They took the vision and values information that we came up with at the retreat and combined them.

“To sustain and enhance a healthy, resilient marine environment where individuals are engaged and strive to support life for all inhabitants of Island County.”

Andi moved to approve the new vision statement. Ken seconded. The vision was approved.

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“The MRC values collaboration, inclusivity, and community-driven projects which are scientifically based, meaningful, and generate lasting results.”

Andi moved to approve the new vision statement. Ken seconded. The vision was approved.

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION:

Kelly explained that there are two pots of money that the MRC is working with for this year. The first is \$16,562.50 available for 2nd year funding through the NWSC. Kelly recommends that the committee use these funds to fund the Port Susan MSA and for monitoring pre and post restoration sites on Whidbey Island. The 2nd pot of money is new Congressional Funding in the amount of \$200,000. We are still waiting to hear more details about how the funding can be used.

The committee worked together in a prioritizing exercise in the Mural website. Members were able to mark the projects they found to be the most important. These are the projects they came up with and the allocated amounts of funding included. The amount of funding included are best guesses and we will work to get a more defined budget for each project. The committee additionally chose project leads for the new projects. Each project lead will be responsible along with staff to identify the budget and deliverables of their proposed project by the next MRC meeting in May.

Education Equipment (for outreach and education) = \$10,000
Shore Friendly Outreach = \$15,000
Restoration Site Monitoring = \$34,000
Water Quality Monitoring = \$20,000
Island County Staff Workshops = \$15,000
Derelict Vessel Removal = \$50,000

PROJECT REPORTS:

See written reports

COORDINATOR'S UPDATE:

None

OTHER REPORTS

See written reports

COMMUNITY COMMENT FORUM AND Q&A FROM THE PUBLIC:

Steve Boskovich shared that he is interested in volunteering with the MRC under some capacity in the future.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business and no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 4:00pm.