

Anderson Island Citizens' Advisory Board

Date, time and location of the meeting:
March 10th, 2006 at 19:30 PST (7:30 p.m.)

Time meeting was called to order:
19:35 PDT (7:35 p.m.)

AICAB members present and absent, and name/title of guest speakers:

Listed in order by seating position from CAB members' left to right:

Anthony Tognazzini [AT]
Chuck Hinds [CH]
Randy Anderson [RA]
Jim Singer [JS] – Treasurer
Phyllis Zander [PZ]
Peter Seto [PS] - Vice-Chair, Acting Chair for this meeting
Erik Hodge [EH] - Secretary, Recording Secretary

Absent and excused:

David McGoldrick [DMc]
Tom Huffar [TH]
Debbie Lowe [DL] - Chair

The two-initial abbreviations in square brackets, e.g., [AB], were used throughout these minutes for AICAB members as well as others who spoke, including the following:

Scott Redman [SR] - Pierce County Surface Water Advisory Board (SWAB)

[PS]: Welcome. Work-session format tonight. This meeting will be less formal.

Asks if there are any changes to suggested agenda

[JS]: moves to adopt agenda

[RA]: seconds

[vote recorded] : 7 aye, 0 no

[PZ]: moves to approve minutes from January 10th meeting

[JS]: second

[vote recorded]: 7 aye, 0 no

Treasurer's report

[JS]: 2006 won't be treated as non-profit organization because we're not corporation.

AICAB is a County agency appointed by County Council. Budget: \$3000 in 2006 allocated, we'll have to submit bills through Dick Muri's [DMu]'s office.

Ferry Committee rept:

[CH]: 2 meetings, 1 w/county. 4 AI people met on Monday, plus 3 from Ketron, 5 county people, 1 from Pacific Marine. Meeting minutes are available here:

http://www.aicab.org/documents/2006/ferryCommittee/20060306_PierceCountyFerryMeetingMinutes.pdf

Don Peterson reported that the county received 524 responses to the ferry schedule survey (20% return rate), 39% from full-time AI residents, 26% part-time AI residents, 65% preferred option M1, 18% preferred the existing schedule, lots of them had additional writing on them. Ketron people really want to change to M2, leaving at 4:10 straight to

Ketron so they only take 10 minutes to get home instead of an hour and 20 minutes. M2 leaves space on 5:10 for AI, but students on 4:10 get home 10 minutes later.

Three-year-old waterborne study mentions Ketron would have later run and that's what they got. One Ketron woman can't do the 4:10 as last run due to her work, so not all Ketron agrees. I did an informal survey on the boat; 6 drive-ons said change to 5:20, 19 said leave as is, 4 had no preference. Walk-ons: 5 said change to 5:20, 24 said leave as is, 4 had no preference. Sum total: more than 2/3rds said to leave as is, so we're still in the ballpark we were in at the AIA meeting where we voted to leave it as is, AI people still think it's working as is.

[EH]: Will any changes be made in two years, or is there a possible schedule change soon?

[CH]: May happen in next few months. Ketron people at meeting really pushed for change.

Ferry dock sinking in February: wind damage, unusual North wind got water over top, sank it. Coast Guard regulation doesn't allow pumping water out of the tank unless it's totally submerged. Don Peterson said Pacific Marine located the Spirit to use as passenger ferry, arranged for dock with Tacoma Yacht Club. \$250,000 cost paid for by insurance except the \$100,000 deductible. Thanked all volunteers on island. County wanted to make it known that a lot of the time they looked like they weren't doing anything on the dock but divers were down under water working as fast as they could.

[JS]: Did they address whether there is anything that can be done to the design to preclude this happening in the future?

[CH]: Will get to that. Ferry ticket sales: automated machine sometime this summer. Commuters will have a single ticket. When it's out of tickets, that's it.

[EH]: Is it true that the machine will just sell single tickets, not commuter passes?

[CH]: not sure yet, they don't have that all set. Tickets will be bar coded and will get scanned as you get on the ferry. Will have one single ticket that's loaded with five charges and they can tell you as they scan it how much is left. They are looking at other sales options like Internet ticket sales. Visa will work in machine. Expired ticket exchange program is now stopped. County Council voted to abolish that.

[CH]: New ferry can be seen on County Web site. New ferry will be two feet wider to have a handicap lane from bow to stern, same capacity, controllable-pitch propeller for better efficiency, locked stairways, vertical clearance two feet higher than The Christine Anderson, flat flooring on passenger deck. No side doors on passenger deck. Will operate on alternate weeks when it first comes into service. Old Steilacoom will go up for sale.

New AI dock - Sept-Oct time period. \$2.7 million 48 hours to install it. Not sure what transportation will be during those 48 hours. Won't have problem of water going into float as current does.

Out of Service Schedule for Christine Anderson; bids due today, Todd may be sole bidder. April timeframe. Parking on Steilacoom side will be arranged by County to allow for more foot traffic.

School bus parking: have bus come through parking lot? Widen road down there would not really be feasible. Don Peterson is aware of this. More walk-ons due to raise in car/driver rate.

Ferry fares: in effect for two years, need to recover 60% of operating cost.

Communication: how to communicate ferry issues to islanders, e.g., dock sinking. Media alerts first (radio, TV), email, fire dept notified right away. Intellicast: reverse 911 - telephone all islanders (County plans to do this), AICAB. Do we want to post on reader boards too, ...etc.?

Parking in Steilacoom: need to get more parking. Middle school getting torn down so that might be a place people could park. Don Peterson is looking into it. Steilacoom shot

down adding a parking area at the old train station.

[EB]: Parking on other side is of interest to lots of people. Will have to go through AICAB --> County Council, need to get right of first refusal to buy certain properties.

[JS]: People will pay \$1 to ride a shuttle

[CH]: AICAB Ferry Committee has five people, good representation: someone from the school district, Elmer has been on the AIA Ferry Committee, Ed's been here quite a while, and Keith Volrath has been on the island for many many years. Also note: County said they don't want AICAB ferry committee to get involved when something goes wrong with the ferry (as it did when the dock sank); they just want us to be in an advisory capacity. They said people on AI should contact them, not the AICAB ferry committee.

[PS]: County Web site public works page has Don Peterson & Toby Rickman's phone numbers.

[PZ]: We need link to it from AICAB.org

[EB]: ferry committee will design a short mission statement so people know what duties are/are not.

[PZ]: store is where people go for info right now.

[Ed Stephenson]: Part of the ferry committee met with the school booster club re: method for getting ferry tickets to the children, need to figure out new ticketing handling for new tickets.

Retreat

[PZ]: am one who suggested it due to people not getting along. Was for all of us to get history/knowledge of each other. Will react to each other better if we know each other. Will be held on April 1st at Lakewold Gardens, 12317 Gravelly Lake Dr SW in Lakewood. Take the 9:30 ferry, starts at 10:30, will end until we're done. Donna Golden's letter asks: "How can they discuss anything regarding AICAB at a non-public meeting and not be in violation of the Open Public Meeting Act? Also, at the last AICAB meeting they discussed hiring a facilitator for their retreat. Do they have that, and how much does it cost?". There will be no facilitator (unless Debbie lined one up and we haven't heard about it). As far as the OPMA, it is a public meeting. If you want to attend, bring sack lunch. Will just be discussing format, how to get along, how to be good for the island. No business discussion. Room is \$75 to rent it.

[CH]: volunteers self to get donuts.

Surface Water Management Proposal

[PS]: has been presented to AICAB and AIA, and available on-line. Reactions: most of proposed projects on AI have to do with County road right of way, 3 culverts, +1 proposed. Some park property. Recommend AICAB consider motion to reject changes to roadways; county already does it and we already pay for roadways that way. Riparian changes won't benefit the stream; natural progression from meadow to forrest will take care of problems. Proposing removing blackberries and replacing with native vegetation.

[SR]: County-wide approach to funding flood protection, water quality, ...etc. Money has already been collected from single-family residences \$26/year. Argue this is a good way to get collected monies spent on the island.

[CH]: roads change does not mean culvert change improvements.

[PS]: level of research of AI portion is minimal, flood prevention is word-of-mouth. Barbara Ann Smolko said it will flood anyway due to shallow slope. Should change the tax. Looked at own taxes from 2001: \$31 on PS's property, \$26 2004 & 5, \$20 dropped to \$0 in Riv lot. County should drop the tax completely.

[EH]: if money is already collected, then we can drop the tax and thye will still do the work.

[SR]: some of us are subsidizing other places, but we have money on account and we should get some good out of it.

[PZ]: need Dick Muri [DMu] to give synopsis for AI at next meeting, how much is in fund for AI, we'll vote at next meeting.

[PS]: are paying taxes to cover for things like weed control, surface water management, ...etc. and need to add this April topic: county person to tell us what's been spent and what's been done.

Public comments:

[Bernice Hundice]: lots of comments: people who would otherwise walk onto the ferry bring their cars over due to security issues on Steilacoom side. Need Pierce County or Steilacoom to provide security during a planned ferry outage.

[Charlene Holt]: why are tickets dated? Why do they expire?

[CH]: They only expire if you get a special commuter rate; you should use 5 tickets in 45 days to get the discount.

[PZ]: in summer, regular ones are better than Sr. tickets due to surcharge

[Vivian ???]: check property

[Yolanda Nelson]: never had problems parking on other side for years, maybe changes.

The minute the ferry docks, the bus takes off without us and the county never did anything about it, transit authority said that will ruin their schedule.

[EB]: have told Toby Rickman about that, it's been going on for years

[PS]: Don Peterson and Toby Rickman have basically said they are in the ferry business, not trying to provide and integrated transportation solution. I think it's time to think a little bit more about that.

[PZ]: 17 years boat is 2 feet from the dock and the bus leaves empty. Park-and-ride connected to bus system would be good.

[Natalie Bates]: Suggest communication: put a phone number in the AI phone book that you can call up to get the current ferry schedule and with updated recorded messages.

[JS]: update every four hours.

[Natalie Bates]: Also, you did address school concern 30 tickets/day, walks down to ferry booth every day to do that, we're paying someone to do that every day. They say they can't fix their billing problem to do it a more-efficient way (through mail, long-term, ..etc.) Push back on this more with County. This needs to get fixed.

[JS]: Machines for dispensing tickets costs a lot of money, maybe too much overhead doing all these other schemes.

[CH]: Internet sales idea doesn't cost County much money

[(audience member name not given)]: why not sell tickets on the ferry?

[JS]: need bonded person who can take money...etc.

[PS]: Am guessing we are just doing what Washington State Ferries do and what we've always done and it takes time to change that.

[[1:01:53 in m4a recording]]

[Darrell Beck]: flooding: only time seen it: going over Oro Bay Road, why pay for everything else?

[EB]: might invite someone from County who understands surface water, recent addition of more roofs, more driveways. Don't do away with the tax until we know what future impervious surfaces will be.

[PS]: that's in the study, most islands have one or two streams. Ketron has none.

[JS]: It cost \$25,000 to do a surface-water study (5 acre parcel) for church.

[John M]: why aren't we getting help on lakes; ours are not private lakes.

[PS]: Study doesn't address lakes.

[SR]: As mentioned before, rate study is currently going on: County looking at apportioning what gets collected, whether lakes-related projects should be eligible. Right now, is not.

Ground water also same status. Utility is 10 years old or so but still straightening out the mission. Someone else from public works water program should come explain, e.g., Harold Smelt???

[PZ]: And have them make it about Anderson Island.

[Toni Rex]: You need to look at the rest of it; the money part of it is important: if they go to apportionment and they have 17 places and we pay 1/17th instead of what we should owe.

[PZ]: Yes, money-wise it's important.

[Darlene Thompson]: South end is exploding in new construction.

[PS]: Randy raised a question: serious problem when ferry stopped

[RA]: some people who get prescriptions by mail couldn't go get theirs when mail service stopped.

[PS]: couldn't even get at your mail until service is restored, even in Dupont

[SR]: got mail from Dupont even though they grumbled. Have to call Dupont station first, then go get it.

[PS]: So, you can get your mail, you just have to call Dupont station before you go.

[AT]: fire dept made two runs to get medication. For some prescriptions, couldn't get it from pharmacist without bringing in the actual person the medication is for.

[RA]: mail-order house prescriptions can't be picked up.

[Toni Rex]: Nancy Robinson, Liz Galentine, and myself: we're addressing that by putting together a PC Net for our area of more than 100 people, passenger ferry designee in the PC Net could have handled getting prescriptions.

[AT]: talk to Dave Zummer (???) , pharmacist.

[EB]: who on AICAB was appointed by Tanner Electric?

[RA]: me.

[EB]: Can they catch up on these trees, fix the problem of power going down in a storm?

[RA]: would cost way too much to put the wires underground. There is a work-order plan for problem areas. Liane Heckman's area and at Agate beach and Lyle point road. All new service is going underground. Tanner was beholdent to fire dept to get crews from North Bend, for clearing roads (volunteers), ...etc. '96 storm was way slower in response getting trees cleared, power up. If power goes off, turn everything off, please. They kept blowing the circuit trying to turn it back on.

[PS]: difference in this storm was unusual wind from N and saturated the ground, then wind came from the E and knocked down different set of trees.

[JS]: County had 3-day holiday while the AI ferry dock was sunk. County office took off and Web site was not updated during those three days.

[CH]: need emergency number to contact them

[TRex]: Like Tanner's incredible job on their voice mail

[PS]: Why did float fill with water?

[Ed Stevenson][ES]: Knuckles allow it to rotate, one jumped out. When it rotates enough to kick it out of the knuckles, and weight of flap not on it and stabilizer pipe popped out and waves went into that hole. New system has hydraulic lifts so won't have that vulnerability.

[Bernice Hundis]: Carolyn Getz took video of water going over the blue do-not-walk sign

[PS]: OK, so it's handled in new design, County straightened it out. Why did this get allowed to happen? Third time recently.

[Lee S]: was supposed to be replaced last September, but missed the "fish window" and didn't do it.

[Donna Mollan]: Need way to get our mail brought over on a passenger ferry to get mail delivered using AI cars. Cancelling newspapers, too? Don't want backlog of papers all

delivered at once when service is restored. Gary goes down there anyway, could put the papers on the passenger ferry. Asked about putting on passenger ferry but they said they can't carry it up the ramp.

[PS]: They can't provide anything but passenger service, not delivery. It's a boat, a ramp, and ticket collection process. That's all they provide. County is only link so shouldn't they be responsible for getting mail across.

[Yolanda Nelson]: Ferry back on line, huge rescue and recovery equipment, affected ramp, should they have a weight limit?

[CH]: they have a limit.

[PS]: when marginally-repaired, there should be another limit.

[Natalie Bates]: JS brought up good point: ATM machines for tickets, are 2 large capital items were costed to us in ticket price: Ketron dock repairs, variable-pitch prop. Want to understand the process where we agree to these upgrades? Am asking the process question.

[EH]: 2016 the ketron dock will cost 2\$M

[EB]: They are adamant that Ketron is going to get ferry service. Capital costs and maintenance costs and County takes care of Capital costs. Want us to do 80% of operating costs. Don't think there's an answer, we are out of the picture as far as County's decision.

[PS]: we only pay for op costs, but pay for other costs in our taxes.

[Ed S]: There's not a good definition of capital and operating costs. Asked county to help delineate these. Insurance, Maint., ...etc. in operating costs.

[PS]: Last fare raise was justified solely due to raised diesel costs. Need operating costs defined; pursue by committee vigorously.

[NBates]: Spoke about school levy at last AICAB meeting, thanks for passing on AI by 62%; that's a change from the past where AI support was lower.

[Ron Music]: Fire Dept: 60+ calls all day long to make way for Tanner during the storm cleanup. People need to remember we're all here of our own accord. If you have a problem, consider moving off the island.

[PS]: Difference this time was outside world was watching a lot more.

[PZ]: Volunteers did a great job, everybody pitched in.

[PS]: County got involved quickly which was a change from the past.

[EB]: Don Peterson said anyone on the island should feel free to call him any time. Has staff there and they will handle it. Ferry committee shouldn't suppress people on island calling public service people.

[[1:33:59 in m4a recording]]

[AT]: motion was passed in January AICAB meeting to appoint someone to the ferry committee. Motion died in mid air.

[PS]: That motion passed.

[AT]: but we didn't do anything.

[PS]: We did a lot. What happened was the chair...

[AT]: I know what happened. The motion died in mid air.

[PZ]: We got two resumes and Chuck expressed interest. No sense in going back. Bryan Golden was invited to join and he declined. Spoke with him and he was very nice but said no at this point.

[PZ]: Monthly meeting seem to work fine.

[PS]: Next meeting will be second Friday of April.

[John Mollan]: If the train can meet a ferry, why can't the bus?

[Darlene Thompson]: housekeeping thing: am not representing Community Club, personal

message: paragraph has come up in AICAB correspondence: "The AICAB consists of 10 voting members, (appointed by the Pierce County Executive and confirmed by the Pierce County Council), drawn from each of the following island organizations: Anderson Island Association, Anderson Island Community Club, Anderson Island Historical Society, Anderson Island Elementary School Booster Club, Anderson Island Park and Recreation District, Anderson Island Fire and Rescue District, Anderson Island Quality of Life Committee, Anderson Island Crime Task Force, Tanner Electric Cooperative, and Riviera Community Club." This concerns the Community Club. When Tom Stephenson resigned and left the island, a representative from the AICAB arrived at the community club ([EH]). Did the AICAB Chair ask the Community Club for the membership list?

[Natalie Bates]: I was chair of the Community Club committee to find an AICAB appointee and the board voted to endorse Erik. There were other alternatives, and we voted to endorse Erik.

[Darlene Thompson]: Oh, I must have missed that meeting. What I want to know is: has the criteria changed for the AICAB selecting new members?

[RA]: We don't select, the County Executive gets resume from person appointed by one of the island organizations.

[PS]: We don't control our membership in any way. We can't discipline them, we can't appoint them. We are not responsible for other AICAB members' actions; John Ladenburg is in charge of that.

[Natalie Bates]: each organization has their own choice to pick someone.

[PZ]: When Sherry D. resigned as Riviera appointee to AICAB, Riviera Board of Directors asked [PZ] to fill the spot. I had to submit resume to the county before being cleared to join the AICAB.

[AT]: LUAC- not everybody on AICAB will be on it

[Ron Music]: What happens if person doesn't represent AIA any more?

[PS]: Bylaws don't cover that, it's not our business. Raise that with County Executive John Ladenburg.

[RA]: Different terms of service for each AICAB member were decided by John Ladenburg. Original people were submitted by the 10 organizations' choices, and those people are there for their specified terms.

[PS]: Randy is not a Tanner representative.

[Toni Rex]: Asks Randy: Are you responsible to report back to Tanner? Two years ago it was presented that way. That's how knowledgeable people think it should work.

[Natalie Bates]: Booster club doesn't have contact w/county (Steilacoom School Dist), when they were asked to nominate someone, it was confusing; why having someone?

Two years ago, asked that question. Asked Tom Stephenson about that and he made it clear that booster club person didn't have to report back to the Booster Club.

[PZ]: Feels obliged to Riviera to give synopses to them, but also believes that open meetings allow for others to get information that way. It boils down to communication. Use speak-up forms.

[PS]: Focus question differently: is there a concern that the island is badly represented, or that there is a bad process? Diversity of AICAB is quite surprising and gratifying. Has been successfully cross-section represented.

[Judy Beck(?)]: Concern is first presentation to organizations was "representing the organization", take concerns to board, bring back results. Didn't have input into by-laws that changed this.

[RA]: Involved at start, round table, county commission discussion over what citizens' advisory board could and should be. Wanted as wide a representation of the island as possible. There was not a condition that the organizations would have a chain on the people. Ten organizations were a good cross-section of active people on the island. Control lies not within the Anderson Island organizations, but with the county executive

officer. He has chosen to take the people who were nominated by these various groups.
[Toni Rex]: How do you communicate from/to people on island? AICAB is conduit to county so communication is the most important thing. How does [JS] communicate w/Hist Soc.

[JS]: Try to tell them but they don't care

[TRex]: The fact being, if the opportunity is there, need to make the opportunity available for cross-communication. It doesn't do any good if you all are insulated.

[Judy Beck]: Thanks for letting people talk; this is really healthy.

[PZ]: anyone can come to these meetings, can bring up issues. AICAB will look at issues brought to these meetings and decide if it's something we can handle and take to the County if we feel that's appropriate. Monthly meetings will help with this.

[Yolanda Nelson]: Thanks AICAB for the work they're doing and wish people would leave politics out of it. We're all here to help the island, and if people would just try to get along.

[EH]: AICAB.org Web site provides information, but it is not finished. Hope to make it better soon so it enables better communication. You don't have to go through the AICAB person appointed by your group, and if you're not in any of the 10 groups, you can also go to any of the ten AICAB members with suggestions or problems.

[AT]: What about the LUAC / Community Plan Revision issue?

[PS]: AICAB has nothing to do with it, we don't even know the process.

[CH]: 10 people?

[PS]: not sure. ???

[RA]: 10 from AI, 3 from Ketron. LUAC is different thing and it may not happen. Community Plan Revision will happen.

[PS]: [DMu] was new at his job when he started this and used the wrong words then.

[PZ]: Is supposed to be two meetings/month

[TRex]: Chip Vincent and ...??? are taking applications.

[Judy Beck]: How will people know there is an opening?

[PS]: Will say what we know at the next AICAB meeting. Should be clear by then.

[JS]: People should think about this past President's Day weekend emergency and whether there's a need for coordinated response for such things, or did it just work nicely as is? Thanks to Community Club, Fire Dept, Tanner, Darrel Beck and his shuttle, people who worked with Don Peterson to get passenger ferry, White's Inc.

[PS]: Let's discuss at next meeting.

[Donna Mollan]: P.C. Net is getting active, forming neighborhood teams: goal one per neighborhood. Coordinated by county.

[Ron Music]: AIA was formed to represent the island to the councilmen. Now AICAB has that stance. Will AICAB join AIA to have one function?

[PS]: Don't know how AIA was formed; if this doesn't work well then something else will be done by the County.

[PZ]: AIA provides great and different services to the community. Some things will go to us, some to AIA.

[PS]: Thanks to [CH] and [PZ] for setting up this meeting room.

[EB]: Sifting and winnowing is to develop an issue if needed, then present to AICAB to go to county if deemed needed for that.

[JS]: moves to adjourn.

[EH]: seconds

Meeting adjourned at 21:38 PST (9:38 p.m.)

