

Anderson Island Citizens' Advisory Board

Date, time and location of the meeting:

May 12th, 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:

Chuck Hinds [CH]

Jim Singer [JS] – Treasurer

David McGoldrick [DMc]

Phyllis Zander [PZ]

Anthony Tognazzini [AT] - Acting Chair of this meeting

Peter Seto [PS] - Vice-Chair

Erik Hodge [EH] - Secretary, Recording Secretary

Excused absences (listed alphabetically by last name):

Randy Anderson [RA]

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.

Introductions:

[CH]: Parks Dept: meeting in 2 weeks. People lately have been doing off-roading causing damage in the parks

[JS]: AIHS: July 1st Salmon Bake, Garden Tour 7/29, 8/6 (Sat): Tacoma Concert Band

[PZ]: Riviera: new restaurant mgr, hiring new general mgr

[AT]: CTF: on agenda tonight

[PS]: Booster Club: ground breaking

[EH]: Community Club. Asks Bernice Hundis to summarize upcoming Community Club events: Mother-Daughter Tea tomorrow, Tanner meeting May 20th 10AM, May 27th attic sale, May 18th @ 2:00 Get together to send off Meg Anderson who is moving; she did lots of work for CC & AIHS.

Agenda:

[AT]: surface water management reply, [CH] will report on ferry service schedule, parking in Steilacoom, application for community plans for AI and Ketron, speed-limit proposal from AICTF

Surface Water Management:

[PS]: We got a reply and representative offered to come out to June AICAB meeting

[EH]: Spoke with him and he has put June 9th meeting on his schedule. He sent a letter to clarify the issues but it doesn't answer all our questions.

[AT]: Clarifies for audience that AICAB made motion last month to have AI removed from the Key Peninsula Basin fee plan.

Ferry service:

[CH]: Regarding ferry survey: spoke with Louise Bray: survey is on hold at county, has consultant to put it together but they decided to look at inner workings of county first before doing a survey. They want to narrow it down from many to one person to be the ferry "department" for us to have one point of contact. Survey probably not until Sept when they should have their ducks lined up. Don Peterson said bids due today for new pontoons but don't know yet who/how much they were. Will find out at Monday meeting. New ferry construction still on schedule, should have picture on Web site on Monday. End sections going on, should be ready Oct 18th. Summer rates start May 15th.

[PZ]: They are getting pickier about tearing your own tickets off.

[JS]: It's only commuter tickets that you aren't allowed to tear yourself

[(Audience member not identified)]: complains you can't share your commuter book with your wife in the car behind you if it's a new person taking tickets

[Charlene Holt]: Do my tickets go up for summer and can I reuse again in Fall?

[PZ]: Senior rates don't expire. Surcharge to buy Sr. books so just buys regular ones.

[PS]: Nine month contract for Louise; what is she going to do?

[CH]: She's involved by looking at it with a consultant

[PS]: She's PR, not consultant. She should keep going with her job regardless what county's issues are. The substance of her job is to ask questions and talk to the public.

[CH]: They don't know what to ask in survey until they have it all figured out internally. OK to slip a few months. Schedule won't change in the mean time. Also, Don Peterson said all maintenance on current ferry not finished due to high Todd Shipyard charge since they were the only bid.

[(Audience member not identified)]: Todd Shipyard said a rush job made it more expensive

[PZ]: Where is the other ferry going to go?

[PS]: They're selling the Steilacoom to make room for the Christine Anderson.

[JS]: Would like to see more emphasis in their internal study on getting bus and ferry schedules coordinated.

[CH]: Louise is looking at that. That's why they want to get one person in charge of ferry so (s)he can figure that sort of thing out. Some suggestions to put ferry into Pierce Transit

[Yolanda]: Fighting that for years. 45-60 minutes for next bus.

[AT]: Parking in Steilacoom?

[CH]: Not yet, but long-range we need to push county into finding more parking.

[PZ]: Summertime 3 lanes fill up and cross traffic lanes

[CH]: Will be good for Louise Bray to see that, come on a three-day weekend to see that.

Anderson Island and Ketron Island Planning committee:

[AT]: Another committee being formed for AI/Ketron, 5 open positions. Currently on it: [RA] [CH] [DL] [PS] [AT]. Anyone can apply. Apply to Chip Vincent at the County, ask [AT] or that info.

[PS]: They have not told us any details.

April AICAB meeting minutes approval:

[CH]: moves to accept minutes

[PZ]: seconds the motion

[vote recorded]: 7 aye, 0 no

Treasurer's report:

[JS]: \$2114.88 balance, no current billings to County, 15.80 for office supplies. AICAB members have an account at the store.

[PZ]: Mailing for July meeting cost?

[JS]: \$400-\$500

[PZ]: Mail to all property owners?

[JS]: It would cost \$3000 to send to all property owners every time.

[PZ]: Dick Muri said we might be able to get some special funds from him for this.

[EH]: He said those funds might become available in the October-November time frame. They're emergency funds.

New Business

AICTF proposal:

[Bob Garmire]: Operation officer for TF. Requested speed limit be reduced from White's driveway on Yoman on down to ferry. People tend to drift on the curves. Has never said he wants speed bumps on the road; County engineers would be much against that. Posted speed limit on island is 35mph all the way to Brant Rd on Eckenstam-Johnson and rest of island is 25mph. 35 is too fast in the Yoman curves. In dark on way to ferry people do 35 going down ferry lanes, have witnessed several near misses, children running between cars especially on 3-day weekends, car doors opened without looking, pets out, just waiting for accident to happen. CTF has support of sheriff's department in dropping the speed limit; they don't make the law, they just enforce. Want to see it go to 15mph. Won't stop speeders but gives deputy a reason to talk to someone. They do a lot of verbals and not ticketing much yet. Asks AICAB to apply pressure with County to get this speed limit reduced in the Yoman curves area. County engineer will probably need to come out and figure it out.

[PZ]: 25mph is more reasonable. 15 is really slow (20 in school area is tough to go that slow)

[Bob Garmire]: County engineer will decide reduction if any. We need to make a suggestion, anything to reduce it.

[PZ]: What we need is one of those monitoring machines and a camera taking photos.

[Bob Garmire]: Won't do anything unless they're going 10 over or more which would be 45 mph there. Deputy that was here last year set it for 15 over. Argued with him that that's too much.

[DMc]: Slow it at top of the hill before you even get to that curve

[Bob Garmire]: wants to be conservative on where to put the change.

[PZ]: Other dangerous place: near church merge

[JS]: Other area: no special speed limit around the school; it's 25mph but it should be 20 during school hours. Also, Interlaken Park needs reduced speed. Speed bumps there are a good idea.

[Bob Garmire]: There it might make sense to have speed bumps.

[PS]: Roads are designated in community plan by type and function, and this is an arterial road. Preference would be to leave it defined as arterial, widen it to county standard width and sight distance requirements for curves. County normally procures 60' of land and they log and mow so you have sight distance.

[EH]: I see this going in two steps; set the speed limit lower while looking into the sight-distance solution.

[Bob Garmire]: Might take too long to widen the road and need to do something in the mean time.

[PS]: Problem is the road, not the drivers

[Charlene Holt]: Bob and Peter are right; do the speed limit now, then change the road in the AI plan

[Bob Garmire]: island is growing tremendously

[PZ]: Many more heavy vehicles coming on the island and they don't turn that corner very well

[AT]: Take a safety position on this with the County

[Bernice Hundis]: Between Guthrie Road and store, need walking easement or sidewalk (store to swimming hole), ideally walkway from store to ferry.

[JS]: Is it Public Works?

[Bob Garmire]: yes. Contact me or other CTF members for whom to talk with there; they'll send someone out here.

[Yolanda]: Otso Pt is becoming a race track, county trucks coming down hill from school go way too fast.

[PS]: Am assuming ferry lanes have different speed limit from road, right? Hopefully we're not allowed to go 35mph in ferry lanes.

[PZ]: Problem is reactive: County waits for fatality before doing something.

[AT]: Islander told him to address Golf Course crossing (carts too fast, pedestrians)

[Bob Garmire]: trying to make people conscious of their speeds. 9 months ago talked sheriff into putting up "your speed is" machine and people slowed down even though no law enforcement was present. That evening noticed people were going slower as a result.

[PS]: From Brant onward it's not an arterial any more, straight road, it's 25mph

[DMc]: maybe we need to draft a comprehensive letter; prioritize all the concerns, pointing out increased traffic, all roads are dead end roads so none should be arterials. Yoman used to be a foot path. Make recommendations in well-thought-out letter from AICAB and AICTF pointing out each problem area.

[Bob Garmire]: Agree; that at least primes the County that we'll be coming out with more issues

[DMc]: community plan 2 yrs. Moves that IACAB and AICTF drafts letter to Public Works to seriously consider reviewing their public speed limits.

[PZ]: seconds

[(Audience member not identified)]: People could put out their own speed-limit signs

[Bob Garmire]: It's a misdemeanor to tamper with County road signs

[AT]: any object not county's in roadway is illegal

[PS]: To clarify motion, confine to speed limits or safety issues?

[DMc]: Open to both, but clearing trees and widening road is long range

[PS]: Find out if there is a 60' easement now

[Bob Garmire]: Can do that. However, if county clear cuts 60' wide swath, islanders will be livid. County will look at the money involved as well.

[AT]: asks [EH] to please re-read motion

[EH]: rereads [DMc]'s motion

[DMc]: Leave motion simple, realistic within current county budget.

[PZ]: Can ask for more then let them choose one thing to do if they have to limit it.

[DMc]: suggests CTF give AICAB a letter with prioritized areas

[PZ]: List worst area as priority 1, next-worst as 2, ...etc. Agree w/[PS] that widening road will prevent accidents.

[Bob Garmire]: agree

[CH]: Don't have to clear both sides to fix the problem, for instance getting rid of trees on left (West) side of the Yoman curves would go a long way to improving the sight distance.

[Vote recorded]: 6 aye, 1 no

[AT]: Moves to adjourn

[EH]: seconds

Adjourned at 20:35 PDT (8:35 p.m.)