

Gabriola Island Ferry Advisory Committee

Date: May 24, 2007

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Agi Hall
South Road, Gabriola Island

Attendees:

Committee

Andre Lemieux, Chair
Randy Young
Steve Wohlleben

BC Ferries

Captain Chris Frappell, Marine Superintendent
Captain Michael Smit, Senior Master, *M.V. Quinsam*
Don Cheshire, Director, Terminal Operations
Amar Johal, Director, Sales & Community Relations
Rebecca Bailey, Manager, Corporate Marketing
Jane King, Manager, Sales & Community Relations
Stephen Nussbaum, Manager, Terminal Operations

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:51 p.m.
2. **Introductions:** Jane Victoria King was introduced as the new Manager, Sales & Community Relations.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved with the following additions:
 - a. FAC Chair Report.
 - b. Correspondence – Email from Charles Roach.
 - c. New Business - Gary Leitch.
 - d. New Business – Contact list.
4. **Correspondence:**
 - a. Response to Randy Young written proposal.
 - b. Email correspondence from Charles Roach.

ACTION: BC Ferries to send a copy of the email correspondence from Charles Roach to the Committee.
5. **Presentations:**
 - a. Public - none.
 - b. Marine Superintendent's Report: Captain Chris Frappell presented the Marine Superintendent's Report. The following action item arose from the report:

ACTION: BC Ferries to provide an explanation on the portion of operating costs associated with refits and where the surplus goes for Route Group 6.
6. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Minutes of the meeting held on October 19, 2006 were approved and distributed on November 30, 2006. Review of Action Items:

- a. Follow-up - Randy Young Proposal: BC Ferries presented a letter to Randy Young. **Completed.**
- b. Written response re: Nanaimo Harbour Terminal: BC Ferries read a letter from Manuel Achadinha, Vice President, Terminal Operations. **Completed.**
- c. Second turnaround at Descanso Bay/Improved Signage: BC Ferries advised a traffic engineer from the Ministry of Transportation and Highways will come out and look at sight lines at Descanso Bay, then the costs will be analyzed. BCF has been told MOT does not have funding. Signage is due to arrive next week. **Ongoing.**
ACTION: BC Ferries to advise FAC on MOT response to second turnaround at Descanso Bay.
- d. Banner Program: Steve Wohlleben advised it will not happen this year. **Ongoing.**
- e. Senior's discount days: The Ministry of Transportation is reviewing the FAC proposal to include senior's discount rates on weekends. **Ongoing.**
- f. Discounted Smart Car fare: BC Ferries is not prepared to offer separate tariffs for individual vehicle types. **Completed.**

7. New Business:

FAC Chair advised of an email received from a student asking why the *M.V. Quinsam* didn't have tables to work on.

ACTION: BC Ferries to consider putting tables in the seating area for the ship's mid-life upgrade.

FAC Chair requested BCF consider electronic signage at Descanso Bay to inform the public and commuters of sailing delays.

ACTION: BC Ferries to investigate costs and feasibility.

The Committee requested clarification on the need for the number of crew parking spaces. BC Ferries advised that because there are two shifts and they tend to overlap all of the spaces are needed.

The FAC asked for consideration for seniors returning from medical appointments and assured loading.

ACTION: BC Ferries to distribute the 1-800 number for the Ministry of Health's Medical Assistance Program which BC Ferries is part of.

BC Ferries advised the elasticity studies were to be completed by the end of the month and the results would be available for the next FAC meeting; however this route was not chosen to be part of the study.

ACTION: BC Ferries to find out if the Gabriola Island route will be part of an elasticity study.

The FAC asked whether there will be a Public Consultation Process before the mid-life upgrade of the *MV Quinsam*. BC Ferries advised it is not likely as Transport Canada Regulations do not allow for a lot of flexibility.

- a. FAC Chair advised of FAC Chairs' meetings with the Ministry of Transportation with regards to *Performance Term 2*.
- b. BC Ferries presented the *Performance Term 2* update.

- c. The Coast Card Update was presented.
- d. An update on the Canada Revenue Agency tax credit for commuter travel was also presented.
- e. BC Ferries advised Amar Johal and Jane King will be taking over the responsibilities of Gary Leitch, Stakeholder Relations.

ACTION: BC Ferries to provide an organizational chart for BC Ferries that the FAC can refer to.

- f. FAC Chair presented Fred Epstein's resignation from the FAC.

ACTION: FAC Chair to forward a copy of the letter to BC Ferries.

ACTION: BC Ferries to recruit two more FAC members through elected officials.

- g. FAC discussed the email distribution lists and the need for an updated fax distribution list as not all businesses on the island have email.

ACTION: BC Ferries to work with FAC to update fax distribution list.

8. Next Meeting: Thursday, October 18, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

9. Meeting adjourned: 8:46 p.m.

Approved:

Andre Lemieux, Chair

Date: July 18, 2007

Captain Chris Frappell

Date: June 26, 2007

Attachments:

- Marine Superintendent's Report
- *Performance Term 2* Report
- Coast Card Product Update
- Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) Commuter Card Update
- Nanaimo Harbour Terminal response from BC Ferries
- Correspondence from Charles Roach