

Meeting Details:

FAC:	Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee
Date:	May 31, 2007
Location:	Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney
Time:	9:30 a.m.

Attendees:**Committee:**

Bill Noble, Galiano
David Smith, Galiano
Jim Deverill, Mayne
Barry Wilks, Mayne
Donna Branston, Mayne
Jill Justice, Pender
Don Watson, Pender
Jim Clelland, Pender
Val McMillan, Saturna
Susan, Jamieson-McLarnon,
Saturna

BC Ferries:

Captain Chris Frappell, Marine Superintendent
Dan Wong, Vice President, Corporate Relations
Stephen Nussbaum, Manager, Terminal Operations SGI
Mike Menzies, Terminal Director, Tsawwassen
Gregg Clackson, Terminal Director, Swartz Bay
Donna Grapko, Planning Manager, Operations
Steve Anderson, Manager, Fleet Deployment & Scheduling
Joanne Doyle, Planning Analyst, Operations
Captain Allan Bell, Senior Master
Phil Benbow, Long Harbour Terminal Manager
Captain Lewis Mackay, Senior Master
Kim Brice, Supervisor Sales & Service

Absent:

Dave Dryer, Pender Chair
Mick Skuce, Galiano
Susan DeGryp, CRD

Guests:

Connie Nordin from the Galiano Oceanfront Inn
Brian Hollingshead (Islands Trustee for Saturna and former chair of the SGI FAC)

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.
2. **Introductions:** Round table introductions were completed.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved without change, Bill Noble assumed the position of Chair as Dave Dyer was unable to attend due to his health.
4. **Correspondence:** There was no correspondence for the Southern Gulf Islands FAC.
5. **Presentations:**
Captain Chris Frappell presented the Marine Operation's report with information on traffic, on time performance and vessels (See attached Power Point Presentation)

6. **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minutes of the previous meeting held on March 21, 2006 were approved and distributed to FAC members on April 18, 2006.

Review of Action Items from the minutes:

Action Items

- a. **Action: BC Ferries reps to OCP for Fulford Harbour:** Stephen Nussbaum confirmed that he will be the BCF representative to the Official Community Planning process for Fulford Harbour. BC Ferries planners will complete the functional requirements for the Fulford Terminal in order to meet the OCP requirements. George Ehring reported that Islands Trust process is underway for the Fulford Village focus group.

7. **New Business:**

- a. Coast Card / Smart Media update - prepaid discount tickets (See attached Power Point Presentation)

Dan Wong presented an update on the development of the Coast Card / Smart Media platform and associated products. Members of the public questioned the benefits of the proposed Coast Card / Smart Media. BCF responded that the product is designed for the frequent user and emphasized that it is targeted to benefit a small user group. BCF will be looking for the right mix of product to make the Coast Card / Smart Media a success.

Action: BC Ferries will hold a separate meeting to advise the committee of the new and different Coast Card / Smart Media.

- b. CRA Commuter Card

Dan Wong reported on the Federal Government initiative to develop a program to allow tax credits for 'monthly commuter passes'. BC Ferries is developing a product to meet federal requirements.

Action: BC Ferries will keep the committee advised as more information becomes available from the federal government.

- c. Second Performance Term (See attached Power Point Presentation)

Dan Wong advised the committee of the critical dates and outlined the roles of participants in the process in determining the service levels for the Second performance term. He further explained the process to deal with future fuel price changes. BCF encouraged FAC members to respond and write letters to the Premier's office and to the Minister of Transportation.

- d. Shoulder Season Trial Schedule (SSTS) Update (See attached Power Point Presentation)

Captain Chris Frappell highlighted pertinent statistics pertaining to the shoulder season trial schedule of a two port sailing from Tsawwassen on Route 9 on Friday nights. The trial will be complete June 22, 2007. Although there has been a general downward trend in traffic on all minor routes, traffic has increased on Route 9 during the Friday PM trial period.

As a result of feedback from residents, amendments were made to the original proposed trial schedule which allowed greater opportunities for both Mayne and Saturna Islands by offering an additional option for sailing at 8:15 p.m. These amendments reduce any criticism from these locations pertaining to the trial schedule.

The original multiple objectives to increase the business and capacity of the **Queen of Nanaimo** while improving on time performance and providing for an earlier arrival in Long Harbour at the end of the sailing schedule have thus far been successful.

There was a discussion around Galiano Island businesses and residents who were displeased with the trial schedule and the island's representatives stated that they would not endorse moving forward with a permanent schedule unless BCF addressed their issues. Galiano Island bound vehicle and passenger traffic showed a steady drop during the trial period, the only island to suffer a reduction in overall traffic compared to the previous year.

The island's representatives strongly recommended the inclusion of Galiano traffic on the first afternoon sailing.

Action: BCF is going to look at the schedule to see if it is possible to meet Galiano Island's needs.

- e. Barry Wilks from Mayne Island discussed capacity and schedule constraints on Route 5/5a.

Action: BCF will allow 10 vehicles ex Village Bay to join the Queen of Cumberland for the 0710 departure if the Mayne Queen looks like overloading on her 0720 departure from Village Bay.

Jim Clelland presented information on the Fire Prevention Program. Fire Chief on Pender Island is interested in working with BCF and other SGI to see if there is a way we can partner in order to increase awareness about SGI fire issues.

Action: BCF is going to explore opportunities with Fire Chiefs on the SGI

- f. There was a discussion around 'seat saving' which a few members felt was becoming an issue and needed further announcements or signage.

Action: BCF is going to look into announcements and signage

- g. It was mentioned that the Radio Stations do not give out accurate information regarding routes and sailings to SGI. Just because one sailing may be full, there are transfers and ways in which one could still get there, through route 1 transfer etc.

- 8. **Next Meeting:** Will be at the call of the chair and BCF.

9. **Meeting adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Approved:

Captain Chris Frappell, BC Ferries
Bill Noble, Stand in Chair

Approved July 13, 2007
Approved August 8, 2007

Attachments:

1. Operations Report
2. Coast Card
3. CRA Commuter Card
4. 2nd Performance Term