



FERRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Denman/Hornby Island and Comox Valley Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 19, 2003
Denman Seniors Hall, Denman Island
1:30 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.

Attendees:

Table with 2 columns: Committee and BC Ferries. Lists names of attendees from both groups.

Mark Stefanson
Vice President, Communications Dept.

1. Call to order

Roxanna Mandryk called the meeting to order. Self-introductions were made by all present.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was revised to add Retirement Presentation under New Business.

3. Public Presentations

None

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of November 5, 2002 were approved.

Review of Action Items:

- a) Jim Garton will represent Hornby Island at Coastal Council Meetings.
b) Coastal Council Update - The next Coastal Council Meeting is Thursday, March 6, 2003 at the Coast Bastion Inn, Nanaimo from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Note: Since rescheduled for March 20th & 21st.)

5. Correspondence

None

6. New Business

a BC Ferries Restructuring Presentation – Mark Stefanson

- A Power Point presentation provided information on the following aspects of the Core Review:
 - Current problems and concerns. What needs fixing?
 - Vision statement for the new corporate structure
 - The new business and financial framework
 - New business structure, including the Coastal Ferry Services Contract, BC Ferry Authority, BC Ferry Services and the Independent Regulator
 - A review of the benefits of the new structure
 - Expectations for the future
 - An overview of the current transition from BC Ferry Corporation to BC Ferry Services
 - Handouts included a copy of the presentation slides, a customer information sheet, and the Dec. 9, 2002 media release with backgrounder. These materials will be archived with the Minutes at the local libraries.

During and following the presentation, general discussion included:

- The relative merits and/or shortcomings of the Vancouver Airport model.
- The protection provided taxpayers under the new business structure.
- Whether a new board of directors guarantees good business decisions.
- Suggestions on improved efficiency and reduced costs.
- The Minister's integrated transportation plan, a work in progress.
- The calculation of tariff under the new structure.
- Subsidy and/or service fees allocated to specific routes – cross subsidization and the need for smaller routes to have sufficient financial support.
- Public consultation continues under the new BC Ferries structure.
- The future of the existing BC Ferries Capital Plan, it remains in place.
- Status of the existing federal contract, it continues as before.

b Length of Membership Terms - Captain Monaghan

- Discussed "Terms of Reference", importance of continuity of FAC members and agreed to have members serve 3 year terms, commencing January 1, 2003 and terminating December 31, 2005 with the option of being re-appointed for another 3 years. It was agreed that members may retire during their three-year term, however the local organization they represent will ensure a replacement is re-appointed. All present agreed to serve the three-year term until December 2005.

c Route Operational Activity

- Denman Island - Hornby Island, Route 22
Capt. Pete Kimmerly reported that this winter the Hornby service experienced 2 cancellations due to high tides and 1 due to weather. He also had positive comments on the current transition of BC Ferries to a new independent company.
- Vancouver Island to Denman Island, Route 21
Capt. Wayne Maxted reported that statistics have been consistent, up 7% for vehicles, and 3% for passengers. The Quinitsa refit went well, and the vessel is now equipped with a \$450,000 state of the art Hydroxyl sewage treatment plant – a positive contribution to the marine environment.

d Quinitsa Refit - Seating

- The current passenger seating onboard the Quinitsa is metal benches, which are too high and cold to sit on. BC Ferries is aware of the concerns and investigating alternate seating to replace the metal benches. Concern was expressed about the acoustics in the passenger area on the Quinitsa.

e Carriage of Dangerous Cargo

- David Freeman will contact Captain Monaghan regarding this topic.

f Overtime and Hornby Schedule

- Route 21 - has two crew shifts per day with no scheduled overtime. This route may incur overtime, which BC Ferries has budgeted based on historical data.
- Route 22 - This route has four hours scheduled overtime on Fridays to accommodate the ferry schedule and again is budgeted for based on historical data.

g Update of Driftwood Farms Rezoning Application - Roxanna Mandryk

- Based on a recent community information meeting held on Denman, and comments made by the proponents about BC Ferry's approval of a docking facility at Gravelly Bay, BC Ferry FAC Members were briefed on the development of this project from the community and Islands Trust's point. BC Ferries position is that they will not approve use of BC Ferries facilities in Gravelly Bay unless the project has the approval of the Islands Trust and Regional District.

h Retirement Presentation - Captain Monaghan

- BC Ferries passes on a warm, heartfelt thank you to Lu Ackerson for her past participation on the Ferry Advisory Committee.

7. Action

Further questions from the BC Ferries Restructuring Presentation can be emailed to Ann Carpenter.

Tony Law and Louise Bell will consult with their colleagues regarding the three-year ferry advisory membership term and report back to Captain Monaghan.

BC Ferries will write a letter to Carol Quin, Regional Director seeking permission for Roxanna Mandryk to be appointed as Ms. Quinn's representative for the three-year term.

8. Next meeting

To be scheduled by Melanie Christensen and Roxanna Mandryk for October 2003.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:40 p.m.

Approved: Captain Tony Monaghan
Roxanna Mandryk, Chair:

Date: March 11, 2003
Date: March 11, 2003