

GABRIOLA FERRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE 29 AUGUST, 2001

AG HALL, GABRIOLA, 18:30

Present: Steve Wohlleben	BC Ferries: Capt. Trafford Taylor
Tawny Capon	David Carroll
Jane Wood	Gary Leitch
Don Adair	Steve Clapton
Gail Lund	Elgin McKillop
Bernie Sperling	Carl Mathieson
Bruce Taylor	
John Hall	

1. Improvements at Descanso Bay: David Carroll, Director of Terminal Construction outlined the improvements planned for this fiscal year. Details included new washroom and waiting room facilities, electrical gear consolidation and relocation, shoreline stabilization, and possibly a small office space for the Senior Master. This will be the first of several waiting rooms to be built over the next several years at a number of different terminals; therefore, BCFC would like to use this experience to design a template for the facilities which will be built elsewhere. Involvement of the ferry advisory is important to ensure a functionally acceptable and aesthetically pleasing design. The holding lane is not part of the current proposals.

Preliminary drawings were presented for consideration of the committee. Concern was expressed over the best parking spaces being reserved for staff. Issue has partly to do with the contract with the Union. Alternative property is private paid parking. The issue of spring (water) in the centre of the road was raised, and will be discussed with MOTH in the context of upgrading the holding lane. A new project manager will be appointed and preliminary plans will be prepared for discussion at a public meeting. Point was made that alternative solution may be two smaller ships to handle traffic better thus obviating the need for some of the terminal changes, particularly with respect to traffic management.

Action: minutes of the Gabriola FAC meeting of June 11, 1999 will be circulated to the committee. Members will add their contribution to the list. Chairman Wohleben will create a consolidated list and forward to Project Owner, Steve Clapton, for consideration in developing the preliminary plan for discussion at a public meeting.

A public meeting (Open House format) may be possible as early as the first week of November.

2. Emergency Response & Callout

Chair Wohlleben reported on status of discussion at Coastal Council, i.e. that Gabriola is the only route where this is a problem at this time. Thetis & Kuper Islands are the only other two islands where BC Ferries is an important part of the emergency response system, i.e. to carry the ambulance to Nanaimo. BC Ferries is unable to guarantee that a ferry will be available 24/7 for emergency purposes; crew may not be available, ship may be under maintenance; crew are not required to attend.

Action: Capt. Taylor will determine whether any change to BCFC policy is likely.

3. Meeting with Minister Reid. Tawny Capon reported on Coastal Council's Executive meeting with BC Ferries Minister Judith Reid. The meeting although brief was positive and the Coastal Council is encouraged that all major transportation programs are under one minister.
4. October 24-25 meeting of Coastal Council is uncertain due to staff being fully committed to core review being conducted by government.
5. Schedule problems were discussed. Impossible to maintain schedule during summer. Not everyone agrees that this is a problem. Schedule will be discussed in detail for resolution before the end of January 2002.
6. Quinsan Refit. Before proceeding three factors will need to be considered: class 2 vessel survey must be conducted to determine in detail the condition of the ship (ultra sound analysis etc); are sufficient funds available for major refit (funds are currently in budget for this

year. Question is, is it enough?); growth in traffic is different from planning assumptions (i.e. is higher than anticipated). Therefore vessel may not be appropriate. Have asked Planning Dept. to reconsider planning assumptions. Schedule for refit is not set.

Action: BCFC will advise FAC when analysis is done.

7. Next meeting: when more detailed preliminary plans for terminal improvements are available, at the call of the Chair.

Approved:

Capt. Trafford Taylor Date
Marine Superintendent
Inter-Island Services (South)

Steve Wohlleben Date
Chair, Gabriola Ferry
Advisory Committee