

**POINT ROBERTS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Contact: PRCAC.COMMENT@GMAIL.COM**

**Minutes: July 22, 2021 Regular Meeting**

**Members Attending:**

Chair: Allison Calder (Point Roberts Registered Voters Association)

Vice-Chair: Kat Smith (member-at-large)

Secretary: Grant Heitman (member-at-large)

Annelle Norman (Point Roberts Tax Payers Association)

Bill Zidel (member-at-large)

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**CALL TO ORDER: 7:03PM**

**Agenda Approved:** Yes: 5 No: 0

**June 24, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes - Final Action:** Approved - Yes:5 No:0

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Email: New PRCAC applicants
- Email & opening comment: Heidi Baxter : Friday Community Market at the Marina (J Dock) - Request to use community center commissary kitchen - added to new business (below)

**OPENING PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

John Beals re: wants COVID ferry to stay open in some capacity. Moved to new business - PRCAC Secretary Heitman will write memo to Executive Sidhu.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Bill Zidel welcomed as new member-at-large appointed by the County Executive**

### **PRCAC Chair Calder & Vice Chair Smith meeting with Governor Jay Inslee:**

- Border Closure: Emphasis on learning about local impacts on households and businesses. Governor committed to lobbying both Canadian and US Federal Governments. Suggested localized limited border opening study project for international authorities.
- Federal "Mainstreet" redevelopment grants.
- Potential for Point Roberts wetland mitigation bank associated with Water District #5 operations - County officials support the concept.
- Expanded / continued ferry service via State Highway & Ferry system.
- PRCAC chair will meet with WA Dept of Ecology and Whatcom County staff re: wetlands mitigation bank program planning.

### **State Representative Sharon Shewmake Town Hall:**

- Rep. Shewmake make told PRCAC that her office has never had a grant application made to the State of Washington from Point Roberts. Asks for solutions initiated by community: PRCAC staff working with state and county to provide administrative support to apply for and manage Federal and State grants to local initiatives. Next step is to create Point Roberts Revenue Code 501(3)(c) non-profit organization - State provides employee for a year to administrate MainStreet grants. All Business & Occupancy Tax payers could donate funds to the non-profit organizations - donations would be deductible in following years on B&O tax at a set rate.

**Fenced Off-Leash dog area in Lighthouse Park:** Per County Parks Director McFarland: take request to the Citizen's Parks and Recreation Committee - need proposal to the Director by 8/9 - CAC subcommittee going to create the proposal

**Two new openings for at-large PRCAC members:** Candidates for appointment forum 8/12 at 7PM. Publicizing on Point Interface, PAWS, Social Media, All Point Bulletin

**County Executive Sidhu has meeting with Whidbey coming up re: Whidbey Telecom & rural high speed broadband.**

**Wetland Mitigation Bank:** pending meeting with County and State staff

**Pier and boat launch:** will be on agenda for August regular meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

**Local Sales tax recovery:** Executive Sidhu is going to the Whatcom County Council, using estimates from Blaine Municipal Tax data, to request for Point Roberts local tax code designation for 98281. Portions of parcel sales tax revenues can be set aside for locally public uses in Point Roberts. PRCAC Chair Calder will lead subcommittee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Heidi Baxter: 1) need long term plan for passenger ferry 2) requests Point Roberts Outdoor kitchen on next PRCAC regular meeting agenda.

PRCAC Secretary Heitman: Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services of Whatcom County: DVSAS.ORG - Confidential help available NOW for Domestic Abuse & Violence / Sexual Assault / Stalking / Harassment / Human Trafficking / Elder Abuse. Covid19 Vaccine Locator - Trauma Survivor Advocacy - Physical & Mental Health Services -

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**Adjourned 8:46PM**