**Ferry Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday July 14th 2022**

**Roll Call – *Islands:*** Jon Emerson/North Haven, Sonny Sprague/Swan’s Island, Kathy Clark/Swan’s Island, Eva Murray/Matinicus, Phil Crossman/Vinalhaven, Duncan Bond/Frenchboro, John King/Islesboro.  ***Mainland –*** Dennis Damon, Hank Berg.

***MaineDOT –*** Mark Higgins, Bill Pulver, Joel Perry

**Introduction of Visitors *–*** Lisa Millette/Island Institute

**Minutes Approval *–*** Sonny Sprague 1st, Dennis Damon 2nd

**Communications *–***

***Financial Subcommittee –*** John King spoke about the analysis of tariffs and fares from other ferry services around the country noting that the MSFS seemed to be in the ballpark with the rates. It was noted that senior or commuter rates could possibly be changed or added when the MSFS gets to planning for the next tariff. Jon King also inquired about the possible availability of the financials sooner to allow for more time to go over them in detail. Jon Emerson also thought the idea of senior tickets was a good idea and agreed on getting the MSFS P&L sooner. He then proposed the 3rd Thursday of the month always be set for the FAB meetings to allow for the time to get the info together. Phil Crossman then motioned to move the meetings to those dates, and John King seconded the motion, with only Dennis Damon opposing.

***Island Institute Report –*** Lisa Millette discussed that the Island Institute survey had received over 1100 responses and that they had come mostly from full time island residents which is what they were looking for. The Institute was still reviewing the data and hoping to get a summary out soon. They were also working with KPFF to determine what issues need to be addressed in the 3rd stage of the project.

**Reports of the Ferry Service –**

***Vessel Status Report-*** See Attached.

***Staffing Report –*** Mark Higgins spoke to the current state of staffing at the Ferry Service to be running at about 80% of full capacity. He also spoke on a recently instituted incentive program to attract boat crews.

***Financial Reports –*** See Attached. Bill Pulver also spoke on the financials reporting that revenue was up around $600,000, and around $400,000 up overall. He mentioned a few key items like personal services being up, diesel fuel being up, and repairs currently being down.

**Island Specific Issues –**

Kathy Clark spoke about how there should be no propane trips scheduled on Wednesday due to the reduced nature of the schedule for Swan’s and Frenchboro.

John King inquired about the implementation of the new Ferry Ticketing system. Joel Perry discussed some of the issues and success that the MSFS is having with it and that it should continue to become more user friendly over time, and with more practice for the MSFS staff.

**Old Business –**

***Naming of the Libby replacement –*** Eve Murray mentioned that she would like to have the replacement boat named after Dan McNichol. After some discussion it was decided to table the issue for a bit and revisit it at a later time.

**Next Meeting/Adjourment**

The next scheduled meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 15th at 10:30am

The meeting was then adjourned at 12:13pm.