Deer Harbor Plan and Review Committee  
Public Meeting Wednesday March 13, 2013  
Deer Harbor Hamlet Community Center 4319 Deer Harbor Road

I.) 1:30pm Call to order by Wes Heinmiller

II.) Roll call: Sandra Watters, Pamela Kyle, David Schermerhorn, Bob Connor. Michael Durland, Rick Hughes, Wes Heinmiller

III.) Not able to attend: Charlie Binford

IV.) Guest Speakers: Victoria Compton – Executive Director of San Juan County Economic Development Council (EDC), and Clyde Duke, Orcas Island Fire Department.

V.) Interested members of the public: Anne Marie Shanks, Corey Cookston, Milly Vetterlein, John Ryberg.

VI.) ACTION ITEMS – Bob C. provide BLOG address for Emergency Preparedness. Pamela invite Victoria Compton to meeting in May 2013. Michael finalize Five Year Plan draft with corrections submitted by Sandra W. Distribute to committee prior to April meeting.

VII.) OLD BUSINESS –

1.) Five Year Plan Update – Briefly touched on Plan as to corrections. Discussion on Appendix B, Existing Industrial, and Commercial land Use, specifically use of the word allowable versus use of the word allowed. Tabled until April meeting when all members can attend.

2.) Disaster Preparedness – David S. alerted committee of May 18th for emergency drill which will take place at Spring Point side with participation by the Fire Department, EMT’s, Red Cross, Sheriff boat and volunteer residents. A final meeting to be help prior to the drill; date TBD.

3.) Bridge Replacement – County Works Open House scheduled for Tuesday March 19 11: am to 3: pm Eastsound Fire hall. An Informational open House to talk with the community about Orcas Island Road projects, one being the Deer Harbor Bridge Replacement. Michael D. mentioned that an on-line request for permit to the road department has been submitted, it spoke of a bridge 24’ wide, with 4’ walkways on either side. Also requested by Michael D. and resident Anne Marie Shanks was
the opportunity to speak with Colin Huntemer – Project Engineer for the Bridge, concerning those residents’ who have a direct relationship and specific requirements for the bridge. Pamela K. will be the committee liaison to the county project and report back once bridge project meetings convene.

4.) **Map clarification** – Michael– meet with owners of The Inn at Orcas Island and understand their position related to the 7/2007 map showing potential density 2*. Rick H. to talk to county about the boundary line the DHP&RC committee decided meets the division between Westsound and Deer Harbor.

  **Pathways**– review in April

VIII.) **NEW Business** –

1.) Victoria Compton of ECD. The EDC works with small business owners providing information about financing, variety of available resources/options, helping those considering new or expanded opportunities. Discussion followed when it became known that the resort recently sold off much of the cabins interiors, furniture and small appliances, followed by the installation of washers/dryers and full kitchens in each cabin. Rick took action to verify if permitting has been handed over to do modifications. Some concern on the eventual density increase if the resort goes back to a time-share. In discussing what commercial could look like, Michael brought up a small coffee shop with parking, revitalize the former restaurant space. Bob spoke of the jobless who have abilities’ but live in unbelievable conditions, what goes on at the grass roots level to help with jobs? Victoria was open to dialogue and will return to discuss more in the future. She herself is very interested in the Broadband Initiative and felt it could produce higher wage paying jobs.

2.) Resident Milly Vetterlein introduced the idea of a senior assisted/independent living facility as many of the islands permanent residents are becoming older. David suggested perhaps we invite Stuart Rolf back to understand where he is with his previous ideas on development on his property in the Hamlet.

3.) Clyde Duke – Orcas Fire Department brought the committee up to date
on the use of the meeting/ conference room at the DH firehouse. If we are still interested in using the room for public meetings, we can request a change to the current permit. This is attractive especially during the winter months when using the DHCC is very cold. Clyde also informed the committee that now there is an operational call box located outside the main entrance for use in an emergency (911).

4.) Bob Connor sent a letter to the Land Bank in response to an email sent to Charlie January 21, 2013 written by Tim Clark as the Lopez Preserve Steward. The committee looked over the July 2007 map and found that the area designated for The Inn at Orcas Island should reflect that there are no more potential housing units for this parcel, so the #2* should be removed on the map.

5.) Environ – discussion on use of the word in the plan and definition. Resident Corey Cookston provided a map of Orcas Island that we then used to define an area we felt was the cut off between Westsound and Deer Harbor. No resolution on whether surrounding areas should be included in the plan. Resident Anne Marie Shanks spoke of a hypothetical situation in that the Four Winds Camp changed mission statements and converted to condominiums. The density has increased and vehicles traveling through the Hamlet and outer areas increases which leads to traffic congestion, wear and tear on roads, post office parking and so on. If the environs are removed, we may lose ability to have input on potential permitting.

IX.)  **Meeting adjourned at 3:40**

Pamela Kyle