

HMSC Management Team Meeting
Summary of Discussion
Friday, August 30, 2002

Present: George Boehlert (chair), Patty Burke (ODFW), Michael Davis (NMFS AFSC), Dawn Grafe (USFWS), Fred Jones (Ship Ops), Walt Nelson (EPA), Jay Rasmussen (Sea Grant - by conference phone for first hour), Gil Sylvia (COMES), Jessica Waddell (CIMRS), and Janet Webster (Guin Library).

Purpose of Meeting: The Committee's principal objective is to foster communication and improve interaction among the groups at the HMSC and to raise issues affecting all at the HMSC. Meetings will be called on an "as-needed" basis; agenda items will be solicited.

EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION:

Sea Fest

- this event will be put on for a second year; we will examine having one day at the HMSC and one day across the bay on the waterfront, the latter if the City, chamber of Commerce and Port of Newport want to be involved. A coordinating committee will be set up to get buy-in and spread workload. We will be looking for high level agency people as guests and having another research vessel open house. May be a different date, such as October.
- Dawn Grafe said that next year is the USFWS National Centennial Year and she would be glad to be more involved and to bring in a high level speaker.
- Committee will come up with a theme - Terri Nogler will be going to Delaware to check out Coast Days and get ideas. Looking at first day marine sciences and second day maritime-related activities.
- One feed-back comment was that there was too much to do in one day and so activities need to be spread out more. A second day would be a boost to local economy as well.
- Jay Rasmussen said there was excellent turn-out from Corvallis and Boehlert said a summary of the survey responses will be prepared for the next meeting.

Webpage

- Boehlert plans to stress this more - will get the old HMSC Webpage committee back together (Waddell, Toll, Cole, Rogers, Cutter) to examine what was discussed in the past. Sees communication and the web page as key functions of Director's office, especially keeping HMSC Log and schedule current. Pam Rogers to be responsible for the HMSC log and for recruiting the information. A demo will be set up and comments solicited.

Directories and Email Lists

- Boehlert suggested the need for more "user friendly" online directories at the HMSC.

- Michael Davis said that the NMFS discourages them from putting directories with actual addresses on their pages for security purposes. People can still get needed info through the NOAA people finder. OSU also has a people finder. It was suggested that the HMSC directory could link people to those sites. Trials will be run and comments solicited.

- The all-HMSC mailing list is going to be replaced by different “bins” such as COMES, CIMRS, etc. with gatekeepers. The Director’s office can send to all the gatekeepers for distribution. Will create other subscription-based lists such as Library or Events/Newsletter, Seminars and Facilities (Dumpster and Seawater Line Changes). The goal is to focus the lists to those who want them to reduce junk email.

Seminar Series

- Unsure who is doing the fall seminar series. Auyong of Sea Grant did spring and Banks of COMES did last winter’s series.
- Could move seminar series to Wednesday because OSU Fisheries has changed their seminars to Friday (original reason why it was moved from Wednesday to Tuesday).
- CIMRS is administering the HMSC Distinguished Lecturer series and suggestions for appropriate speakers are welcomed. Please contact Jessica Waddell at 7-0181.

Social Activities Committee

- A committee will be set up to work on improving and coordinating social activities at the HMSC. This would include not just the picnic but also informal ways of getting people together for TGIFs, brown bag lunches, etc. He asked each agency to suggest someone from their group who might like to serve on this committee.

FACILITIES ISSUES AND PLANS

Groundkeeping

- The HMSC grounds could use improvement. Need to develop a rationale to get a position or money for a contractor to take care of grounds – costs shared by all with bulk by OSU
- Grafe pointed out that the European beach grass around the Center is an introduced species and has a list of native plants that would be more ecologically sound

Small Boat Use

- Boehlert discussed the need for improved small boat facilities at the HMSC. He will form a committee to examine what is needed. Perhaps a covered boat house and not just berthing area? Suggested making this the NSF Marine Lab grant request item.
- EPA is very interested in this because they are currently paying for a slip at South Beach Marina. Need it for ease in conducting research, with moorage being the biggest problem (launching at South Beach is fine).
- Fred Jones warned about the stiff permit requirements, citing the two years it took to get the permits for the extended dock and offered to assist in the discussions.

- There was discussion about an informal dive group and the kind offer of NMFS NWFSC to share their new dive locker space in the Fisher building.
- Several people commented about the need to get rid of old boats and trailers that have been left around the Center. Boehlert will ask Randy Walker to make a list of all stored boats and trailers with names of the owners. Boehlert and Walker will be making a walk-around soon to inventory other items that should be cleared away, such as old fishing doors, rusting trailers, and other unsightly materials well past the stage of usefulness.

Shipping and Receiving

- Jones outlined the problem of multiple deliveries of poorly addressed packages. Discussion revealed that most were the fault of poor addressing by vendors.
- Rogers will send the list of street addresses for each of the agencies to everyone here.

Motor Pool

- Fred Jones expressed his regret that the two OSU vehicles that used to be here were reduced to only one. Enterprise Rental can help, but Waddell pointed out that those vehicles cannot be taken out of state.
- There was a discussion about ride-sharing to and from Corvallis. It was suggested that people who drive that way frequently give their name to the HMSC switchboard and then people can call to find out how to contact the individuals as needed. Other suggestions to facilitate ride-sharing to Corvallis are also solicited.

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Recreational Discounts

- Rogers will call Dixon Recreation Center to find out about staff benefits on the main campus and see if we can get some funds to provide same benefits at the local YMCA and Rec Center. Other federal agencies will look into what their agency might be able to provide.

Staff Volunteer Efforts

- Boehlert noted that the HMSC and their families contribute a lot of volunteer effort to our community. He suggested tally the list of volunteering done by the folks at the HSMC provide to the community, which would be very helpful to him when interacting with community groups

ACADEMIC/TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Faculty Activities

- Boehlert shared his desire to establish an unofficial HMSC Faculty to work together. One of their first meetings would be to discuss the future of education programs at the HMSC.
- There was discussion about how individuals could become courtesy or adjunct faculty, and right now they must apply to and be accepted by OSU departments, since

the HMSC is not an academic unit. Perhaps the campus departments, in the spirit of OSU 2007, might allow a special HMSC faculty status with oversight by a committee here.

Library

- Janet Webster asked about creating a formal Library Advisory Committee instead of doing it informally. She brought up issues about the collection composition for the future and where we should be heading in the next ten years. It was agreed that this was an excellent idea.
- Janet will contact the head of each agency to get names of individuals interested in serving on this advisory committee.

Interns

- Boehlert commended Cliff Ryer for the great job he has done in coordinating activities for the HMSC's interns, including the brown bag lunches.
- He noted that he is working with others on submitting an NSF grant for Research Experience for Undergraduates that would highlight agency involvement.

Other

- The HMSC video is outdated and will not be done again for the time being. Instead, Boehlert will ask everyone to contribute slides in particular areas that he can build into a Powerpoint presentation, and which can be tailored for particular audiences.
- Boehlert said that he would soon call a brown bag meeting to discuss the dog situation at the Center.

Seawater System Alert

- Michael Davis brought up a serious problem with the seawater system. The regular mechanical clean-out of the manifolds and pipes has led to cracks in the pipes. These cracks are on the suction side and they pull in air into the system. This supersaturates the water and can kill fish. There is no monitoring of the gas level of the water. To repair the cracks the system must be shut down for several hours and by now all of the pipes in this area have been repaired. They must be replaced by next summer or there could be a major failure of the system. Repairs will be very costly, but it is crucial that they be done. Davis pointed out that NMFS AFSC has over \$1 million in research fish that could be lost if this is not solved.
- He also noted that the fasteners on the manifolds on the reservoir are almost rusted through and if they give way, anyone underneath those pipes would be seriously injured.
- Walt Nelson noted that this was the first time he had heard about this problem and stressed the importance of sharing this kind of information in a more timely manner.

- Boehlert will be calling a meeting of the Seawater Committee to decide how best to deal with this situation.

Action Items from Meeting

1. Meeting minutes to be posted on web.
2. A follow-up meeting will be held to discuss the 2003 SeaFest, probably in early October.
3. A mock-up of the new "HMSC Log" will be put on web for comments. All are asked to provide information for it.
4. New online directories will be put on the HMSC webpage.
5. New subscription email directories to be created to replace "all HMSC" list.
6. Appoint fall HMSC Seminar Chair, decide on change from Tuesday to Wednesday.
7. Appoint "social activities" committee.
8. Appoint *ad hoc* small boat needs committee.
9. Trashy items on HMSC Campus to be tagged for removal
10. Options for improved access or reduced rates at Newport recreational facilities by all HMSC staff and families to be examined.
11. Powerpoint slides to be solicited for making presentation on HMSC.
12. Library Advisory Committee to be formed.
13. Brown-bag lunch discussion on concerns about dogs at HMSC.
14. Convene Seawater Committee meeting to discuss needed repairs to system.

Notes by Pam Rogers