

HMSC Management Committee Meeting
September 7, 2011 3:00pm
Library Seminar Room, HMSC

Attending: Renee Albertson-Gibb (HMSC-HsO), George Boehlert (HMSC), Maryann Bozza (HMSC), Rick Brown (NMFS NW), Carol Cole, (COMES), Brett Dumbauld (USDA/ARS), Bob Dziak (CIMRS), Stephen Hammond (NOAA-PMEL), David Hansen (Oregon Sea Grant), Roy Lowe (USFWS), Walt Nelson (EPA), Debbie Reusser (USGS), Candace Rogers (HMSC), Janet Webster (Guin Library)

Not represented: MMI, ODFW, Ship Operations

OLD BUSINESS

HMSC Estuarine Trail and Erosion: George Boehlert reported that the northern half of the estuarine trail remains closed and that securing the necessary permit is still in process. The sampling and survey requirements are currently being negotiated. Roughly half of the shoreline will be protected in this project as compared to that requested in our permit. There will also be some shoreline allotted as a control area. Some HMSC agencies will be involved in conducting the various surveys. The City of Newport has expressed an interest in being involved in rebuilding the trail that is presently failing.

Maryann Bozza added that the tentative dates for the repair work are 11/8-11/16 of this year. She is still waiting for a confirmation from the Oregon National Guard, who will be doing the work. She has plans to incorporate some outreach and messaging into the project. There will be new interpretive signage for the trail once it is complete.

Steve Hammond asked what the City's involvement might be. Janet Webster explained that the City's Urban Renewal plan includes a network of inter-connected bike and pedestrian paths for the South Beach area. George Boehlert added that we will need to work out usage and easement issues and policies with the City and decide on what type of path (bike, pedestrian, paved, gravel, etc). The Urban Renewal plan has limited funds that also need to cover other important projects, such as improvements to the tsunami evacuation hill at the south end of the bridge.

NEW BUSINESS

HMSC Space Assessment: George Boehlert explained that Rick Spinrad (OSU VP of Research), has requested HMSC to compile a space assessment. All HMSC agencies and groups will be asked for input on their current space requirements and future growth plans. This assessment will be reported directly to Spinrad. One positive result of this assessment might be that it helps justify future requests for new buildings for HMSC. Plans are for the survey to go out to HMSC groups within the next few months.

Tsunami Day & Evacuation Drill: Maryann Bozza gave a briefing on HMSC's enhanced tsunami evacuation training events for this Fall. Anyone interested in helping in the planning of these events is invited to attend a meeting this Friday, 9/9, at 10am in the Library Seminar Room. Upcoming activities will include:

9/28/11: "Tsunami Donuts" outreach event – 10am: Starts in the Staff Lounge in

conjunction with the weekly HsO Donuts break. Tables will be set-up in the adjacent hallway with relevant information. Included will be one by the Red Cross that will have emergency backpacks for sale and one staffed by Dann Cutter regarding backing up computer data.

10/5/11: HMSC's annual Tsunami Evacuation Drill – 2pm: A flyer was passed out to the group with logistical details for the drill. This drill will be different from previous years in that each group will sound some sort of alarm to start the drill. Then after rallying at the usual spot in the Yaquina Bay Inn's parking lot, the group will proceed to cross the highway (contingent on approval by ODOT and Newport City police) and climb the hill that is HMSC's preferred evacuation point. Also, our South Beach neighbors have been invited to join us in the drill.

Action Item: Maryann needs to know how each group will sound the tsunami evacuation alarm for the drill.

It was asked what type of improvements the City is considering for the evacuation point hill at south end of the Yaquina Bridge. Some of the actions being considered:

- Conducting a geo-technical study
- Hiring trail design experts
- Improving the two existing trails
- Clearing some of the vegetation off the hilltop
- Installing storage lockers for emergency supplies
- Installing some sort of lighting (perhaps solar or battery operated)

HMSC Picnic: Maryann Bozza announced that the annual HMSC picnic will be held on 9/15 at the Dining Hall & shelter area at HMSC housing. Potluck dinner will begin at 5:30pm. HsO will be organizing games for those interested.

HMSC Signage & Fences - Security and Landscaping: George Boehlert explained that many HMSC signs were taken down when the road improvements were done a few months ago. OSU University Relations and Marketing has been engaged to develop a design theme for a consistent look. The HMSC Master Planning Committee will be asked to comment and to specify signage needs for agencies.

George also explained that he is considering the removal of the chain-link fence along Marine Science Drive and replacing with more natural looking barriers (boulders or shore pines for example). When asked for input the following comments offered:

- Seems like a lot of expense to go to for just esthetic reasons
- The fence does offer security for our property
- If removed, security considerations could require some agencies on the HMSC campus to implement additional security measures, such as keeping doors locked around the clock.
- It was questioned whether the Dorms might be made vulnerable

Communication & Transportation planning studies: George Boehlert said an OSU professor in civil engineering has kindly offered to have graduate courses address communication and transportation issues at the HMSC. The first project would be done this Fall with the subject being Intelligent Transportation Systems – means of improving communications among various HMSC buildings in emergency situations. The second

would be in Spring 2012 regarding transportation planning on the HMSC campus. George pointed out that the HMSC Master Plan currently lacks a transportation component. He regards HMSC's biggest traffic concern as pedestrian traffic versus truck traffic around the Facilities shop area. The OSU fall quarter students will be paying HMSC a visit on 10/11. George will let this committee members know what is needed from them for the visit.

ROUNDTABLE UPDATES:

Janet Webster: The library building's new roof is on-schedule and almost complete.

Debbie Reusser: She will be going to the PICES meeting in Russia.

Dave Hansen: Nancee Hunter has exited the Sea Grant education director position to pursue a PhD. She will stay with Sea Grant working on part-time projects. Her previous position might not be filled. Shawn Rowe is working on a proposal on how to re-structure the Free Choice Learning department.

Roy Lowe: The Bandon Marsh restoration project is nearly complete. There will be a public dedication of the project on 11/1/11. He will also be giving the HMSC Seminar on 12/1/11 on this project.

Renee Gibb: There will be two new grad student classes sent to HMSC via polycom this Fall; one is statistics and the second a special topics teaching class.

George Boehlert: HMSC has purchased four new polycom units currently being installed in the Library Seminar Room, the Barry Fisher Room, the West Wing Conference Room and the Auditorium. Dann Cutter is working out glitches caused by interfacing between polycom and Tandberg systems.

Steve Hammond: Their department has a new command center in the RSF building. This center allows them to easily communicate with various research cruises. They are able to actually run a cruise from the center. The idea of supplying a data/video feed from the center to the HMSC Visitor center was suggested. Steve also ask whether there are any plans in the works for a small, on-site cafeteria at HMSC. George Boehlert responded not currently. Various ideas were discussed but no action taken.

Rick Brown: The NOAA budget has not yet been officially approved but he does have some money for the following improvements to their buildings:

1. Separate water meters for NAL and RSF
2. New NAL rain gutters
3. New sprinklers for NAL and RSF

Brett Dumbauld: The Molluscan Broodstock Program's budget cuts might eventually cause budget cuts in the ARS program.

Walt Nelson: The EPA building and pump house are also due for a new roof. Those improvements might be done this Fall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: George Boehlert made the following FYI announcements:

- There is now network connectivity to the HMSC pump house. Eventually, the YSI data will be available in real time.
- Randy Walker, head of HMSC facilities, will be retiring at the end of this year. The recruitment for his replacement will start soon.
- Bronwyn Gillanders, of the University of Adelaide, Australia, is at HMSC this month as a Weber Visiting Fellow. She will be giving a public talk on 9/28) and the HMSC Seminar on 9/29.
- OMSI is currently negotiating for 15 acres in South Beach as a location for a science camp. If successful, it will accommodate 200 resident youth doing one week camp stays. It will also offer conference space that the community can rent. The land is being purchased with donor money but they must stage a campaign to raise the construction funds.
- The re-keying of the rooms in the OSU buildings will be done over a weekend this month. Notice to personnel will go out prior to the date.