

Marrowstone Island Community Association (MICA) Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Bud Ayres promptly at 7:00 PM. Donald Emerson, Commander of Indian Island Arsenal led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Island Events

1. The Garden Club will hold a fire extinguisher event. Bring your fire extinguishers for inspection and, if past the certification date, a recharge. Date to be announced.
2. Friends of Fort Flagler are planning an adult only scary story event at the fort on Oct. 27 from 4 to 5:30.
3. The Harvest Festival will be held on October 20 at the Nordland General Store.
4. The Strawberry Festival was a tremendous success, with over 140 helpings of strawberry shortcake served. The Marrowstone Makers, who had booths at the event, were pleased to report solid island support and brisk sales.

Committee Reports

1. Cemetery committee: Bruce Carlson reported that things are generally fine. However, there is a boundary dispute with the Land Trust, which purchased the Fife property. If anyone has information or background on the original placement of the south boundary fence and the sign, please contact Bruce.
2. Emergency preparedness committee: Bud Ayres reported that the current committee members are aging out, and new members are needed.
3. MI Broadband committee: Doug Sheffield reported that Century Link hopes to have their fiber optic work to extend service up to the fort done by Nov.

New Indian Island Naval Base Commander

Donald Emerson introduced himself. He has been in place since June. He reported that, in response to complaints, the volume of one of the Giant Voice speakers has been reduced. He also reported that a recent PT Leader article touting the beauty of the trails and beaches on Indian Island is misleading, in that the property belongs to the Navy and is not open to the public. Asked about holding an open house on the base, he indicated a willingness if there is sufficient interest. The base's biologist, Bill Kalina, will be speaking at MICA's March meeting. Responding to a question about what sort of support we could expect from the base in the event of an emergency, he acknowledged that they would be in much the same boat as we would, but that they were very aware of our community. He offered to connect their emergency preparedness officer with someone on our Emergency Preparedness Committee.

Candidate Forums

Linda Secord reported that we missed the window to have candidates speak at a MICA meeting, but that there are other forums being held in the area. Bruce Carlson reported that there is a question on the November ballot regarding redistricting of fire districts.

Cicmahon (Chetzemoka) Trail

S'Klallam tribal elder Celeste Dybeck gave an interesting presentation about the development of the Cicmahon Trail, honoring the legacy of the S'Klallam tribe in our area and the contributions of Chief Chetzemoka.

Marrowstone Island Foundation

Bruce Carlson reported that East Jefferson Fire-Rescue has bought a building which will be installed between our existing fire buildings and will house fire and rescue personnel. It is expected that this will greatly reduce response time. MIF is kicking off a Station 1-2 fundraising campaign to support the infrastructure buildout and the purchase of a water tender truck. Expect to see a mailing soon on this. The Foundation's website, marrowstoneislandfoundation.org, is able to accept donations.

Person of Interest

Branan Ward was honored, with Vigo Anderson recounting the highlights of Branan's very full life.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.