

Discovery Bay Women's Club

Work Session Minutes

1/15/2026

By Zoom

Call to Order: 10:00

Members attending: 36

Board Members present: Judith Wright - President, Sherri Poindexter - Vice-President, Kena Warrick - Secretary, Sam Blake - Treasurer, Kate Blagdon - Member-at-Large

President's Statement - Judith Wright - It is good to be seeing everyone after a good, long break. Welcome back.

Report from Facility Manager - Tanya Yada -

Septic System - We have been experiencing a relatively calm period of good septic levels. Hopefully the work that we have done such as resealing risers and manipulating settings are the reason that we have not gone into high water levels with frequency like last winter.

Review of the tree work that was done up by the well - There were some dead, leaning and unhealthy trees that were in striking distance of our water holding tank by the well. They were cut down in November. We are doing a gradual clean up. We have reached out to the S'kallam Tribe and an indigenous group in the Quilcene area who are building a Longhouse. They have been invited to see if they can use any of the trees. Facilities will be cutting the smaller trees and limbs. Since we have a good stockpile of wood already some of this wood could be donated to families in need who heat with wood. Some of the trees will lay in the area, decompose and nourish the new plantings. Replanting native trees and shrubs will take place next year once the area is cleared so that new plantings will not be damaged in the clean up process.

The trenching project has been stalled because the original electrician quit. We are now pursuing new bids. Hopefully we will be able to have the electrical work started next week. After that there will be an inspection and then the trenches will be backfilled.

Report from Office Manager - Julia Zorthian - It's been quiet in the office. We have been cleaning and reorganizing files. We have changed the monthly invoices to make them more clear so that members may more easily interpret the rent/assessment lines and the electric charges. I am continuing to update the vendor sheet and it will be going out soon. If you have recommendations for trusted vendors or contractors, please email their contact information to the office (office@discoverybayresort.org).

Open Forum for DBWC Members *(At this time, members are encouraged to bring up issues of concern or interest involving the Park or community, ask questions of the BOD or make other brief comments.)*

Sherri M. - Thanked Tanya for taking precautions for the safety of our well by having the trees managed. She is aware that often their shallow roots make them vulnerable to falling and damaging property.

Lynne A. - She was asked by Wendy about the stacked wood up top that appears to be rotting. Wendy would be willing to buy some of it from us. Lynne was advised to speak to Tanya.

Jeri S. - After big community meals we have often had food leftover that could be donated to others. Jeri has identified two organizations that will receive left over food so that it does not go to waste. One place is the Dove Recovery House Cafe at Kearney and Blaine Streets in Port Townsend. They have an outdoor pantry with a small refrigerator and a cupboard for pantry items, The other possible recipient is TAFY in Port Angeles that serves homeless teens. Jeri will put a sign up sheet in the office for members who would like to form a group to help deliver excess food to others.

Penny Barrett - Commented that Dove House also receives blankets and warm jackets in a bin by the Cafe. Other clothing may be left by the police station in PT.

Discussion Topics

- RFA - Lori Garrison - Requesting change in laundry rules - She does not want to overturn the fragrance-free rule but rather consider a small compromise such as reserving one washer/dryer as designated for detergents that contain fragrances. Perhaps there could be specified times for those who use a detergent with fragrances.
 - Member Comments:
 - Marianne N. - Scents go airborne and cannot be contained. The chemicals in fragrances are poisonous for some people. It's a medical condition that can interfere with breathing by closing one's throat. These chemicals can cause rashes in sensitive people. There is no way for there to be a compromise on this issue.
 - Kerrie M. - Agrees with Marianne. Those who are using the exercise equipment can be negatively affected by scents coming from the laundry room.
 - Becky Stinson - It is not clear what the benefit of this change would be for those who want it. "Fragrance" is a chemical mix made in labs and adjusted to smell like something natural. Fragrances affect her respiratory system. If this change were made, she would need to do her laundry somewhere else. There are two terms on bottles, "unscented" and "fragrance free" There are still chemicals in the products labeled "unscented." "Fragrance free" are safer.
 - Jeri S - This is a matter of one being able to breathe or not. People have used fragrances even after we were designated fragrance-free. There are preferences and there are physical needs. Needs and health issues of others should take precedence. When she arrived here, there was a stringent policy about fragrance free soaps in our common areas. Lately the soaps we are using seem to be scented. She brings a bar of unscented soap to Radclyffe. Tanya will purchase unscented products when we run out of the current inventory.
 - Lori G. - Reiterated that she is only advocating for dedicated time, a small window, once or twice a week. She has not done the homework on how long it takes a scent to leave the building.
 - Lynne A. - Those who want to use scented detergents should take their laundry to town. She does not see a work around for this one.
 - Gale S. - When something involves a health issue we cannot make a compromise.
 - Deb S. - Speaking for Sherri M. - These chemicals are just like inhaling smoke and it really affects those with asthma. Deb S. suggests that if we want to allow fragrances, do it one day a week then open all of the windows to air the laundry room out.

- Sherri P. - We might want to consider using an ionizer that could be run overnight to remove chemical smells and impurities out of the environment. We might want to investigate this.
- RFA - Joanie McCarthy - To empower committees to operate with consistency and autonomy it is recommended that Board Liaisons attend committee meetings as observers. Joanie explained that members in the park have discussed that Board Liaisons' participation can be disruptive to committee work. Every year Liaisons change and their presence can be disruptive to their new committee. Perhaps parameters should be set by the committee about the level of participation for Liaisons. Committees are for the community. The community has agendas and ideas about what they want to take care of. Communication within the committee should be allowed to flow without input from a Board Member. If necessary, the committee may put in an RFA. Limiting Board Members participation in committees would also relieve time pressure on Board Members. The Board Members' time is not used productively being at meetings. It was never intended that being a Board Member should be a fulltime job. If a Board Member wants to attend a committee meeting as a member of the community and not a Board Member that is fine. We are not children and we can have discussions without being overseen. Meetings may be reviewed on Zoom.

- Member comments:

- Tenna - When she joined the Board she was assigned committees to be a Liaison for. She was told that the idea was to facilitate communication between the committee and the Board. Committees exist to help the Board run the Park because it is too much for five people. She asked the committee and the chair what level of participation they would like from her. They responded that since we are all in this together they would like to work as one unit. To ask Board members not to participate seems like "othering".
 - Thea - Every year we have new committees. The members may not know the finer points of how the committee works. It is helpful if The Board liaison can help with this transition and clarify the parameters of the committee's work. It would be difficult for a Board Member to come to a committee meeting as a member and not a Liaison. We have to let all of us speak.
 - B.J. K.- Has appreciated the Board members' assistance, input and guidance on committees. They are members of the committee and their input is valuable. BJ enjoys hearing what they have to say.
 - Marianne N. - Believes that it depends on the Board member and her personality. She has been on numerous committees throughout the years. She is on two committees with Sherri P. and she has been a fabulous partner in these committees. LARC requires two Board members to be working members on the committee. It has been helpful to have the Board Members facilitate and expedite the work of the committee. She has also been on committees where the Liaison is running them and cannot hear the committee members and she has left those committees.
 - Jeri S. - Our founding documents state that our committees are "committees of the board."
 - Gale S. - Agrees with Marianne that personalities do make a difference. It is up to committee members to convey to the Board members what they need from them. They are not there to run the meetings but to assist with information and help.

- Becky S. - Hears both sides of this. It is about personality. New Liaisons do shift things. Maybe there could be a protocol for new Board liaisons to smooth their transition into a committee.
 - Sherri M. - When we became DBWC, two Board members became working members of LARC. Last year that was especially helpful. Liaisons can save work for committees by providing information to facilitate processes and sometimes leadership when necessary. LARC is a lot of work for such a small number of volunteers. Overall, she sees the importance of having Board Members there. This saves us from not having to take issues to the Board and prolong decisions.
- RFA - Penny Rand - Modify quiet hours in the park to be from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. - It's obvious that most people go to bed early and 9:00 should be the established quiet time. If there are exceptions, then they would revolve around 9:00 instead of 10:00.
 - Member Comments:
 - Nanci Saurdiff - Strongly opposes this RFA. She has only heard of one incident about a disruption and that was Dykes on Bikes. If there are disturbances from organized activities, she has always encouraged communication with those causing the problem. State and Federal parks have 10 pm quiet times. There are a significant number of insomniacs in the park. Many of them get together at night on our lots and visit. If they have interrupted others, they have not heard about it. Nanci hears often that we need to get younger women in the Park. By establishing us as a retirement community with a 9:00 quiet time, we are not furthering that goal. People like to stay up past 10:00.
 - Penny R. - Responded that she understands that there are insomniacs in the Park but they do not go around playing loud music. One of her concerns is that our neighbors are essentially farmers and loud noises at night can be disruptive to them. Most of our events never go past 7 or 8 p.m. She is not saying that people cannot gather together but let's just keep it quiet.
 - Lynne A. - Disagrees with Penny. 10:00 is a fairly standard quiet time. A lot of us are late nighters. She doesn't think it's necessary to modify the quiet time.
 - Lori G. - Supports Nanci and Lynne's comments. The Dykes on Bikes want to come and have fun but other than that it is not that often that there is late night noise in the Park. Their visits are only once a year. We want to provide hospitality for our guests who want to come here and help us.
 - BJ - supports the 10 pm quiet time which is consistent with most parks.
 - Jeri S. - Asked if Penny has been disturbed at night other than Dykes on Bikes. It is only that weekend, we can discuss how we can accommodate quiet hours. We don't want to change the rule for just one weekend.
 - Marianne N. - Let's not forget that at 9:00 in the summer it is bright and light out. Telling everyone to go be quiet in the summer is crazy. She is a neighbor of the Ramada and has not been bothered by the sounds.
 - The Debs - Both feel that we should leave the time at 10:00
 - Sherri P. - She goes to sleep early and doesn't mind the 10:00 quiet time.
 - Joanie M. - Votes for 10:00
- Placement of Solar Panels on Sites - Kena informed the group that as LARC is reviewing and revising Standards it has become aware that new Standards need to be created for the placement of solar panels on Sites in the Park. Comments for this topic can be deferred until next month's Work Session so people have time to consider the question.

- Member Comments:

- Penny B. - This might be a good idea for a Task Force. She volunteered..
 - Karen K. - Supports the idea of a Task Force. There may be temporary and permanent solar units.
 - Tenna M. - There are panels that are permanently mounted on RVs. She has been told that Park Model roofs are not engineered suitably to accommodate the permanent mounting of solar panels on roofs.
 - Lynne A. - Volunteered to be on the Task Force. We should consider alternatives other than just solar such as wind.
 - Marianne N. - Things have changed radically in the solar panel world. They are much lighter now. We need to research if park models can now accommodate the more lightweight panels that are on the market now. Her concerns are having solar panels out all over the ground where they can be tripping hazards. She recommends looking to the roofs for mounting them.
 - Lynn B. - Is trying to learn about solar power. She has a pile of stuff to put together and experiment with. There seems to be several people in the park experimenting with solar as well developing a knowledge base for the rest of the park. The answer might be different for every Site. She hopes to be in conversation with others about options for solar installations.
- Electric Chair Lift Demonstration - Sherri and Sherri demonstrated the use of an electric chair lift to assist someone who has fallen and could safely use it to sit and stand up. In order to use this device, a person must be able to scoot herself onto the lift. Sherri will put out a sign-in sheet for in-person demonstrations or trainings for using this device in the event someone has fallen and safely can use assistance. Instructions will be taped to the device and a video may be posted.

- Member Comments:

- Lori G.- This device should only be used in the case of non-injury to the person who has fallen. To use it well, only persons who have been trained should use it.
- Jeri S. - In addition to demonstrations, we should have a workshop to train people similar to a CPR workshop.

Announcements:

Judith - The Board is working on a couple of things for the staff and Members to address the issues that could come up if any purported law enforcement group should want entrance to the Park. For all of us, the first priority must be safety. In the eventuality of such a situation, each of us will be holding, with our actions, the safety of all us. We want to have the opportunity to hear from an expert, and to talk together about our individual reactions, responses, worries, etc. What can we do to prepare for an eventuality we hope will never happen? We hope to move quickly to bring all this together, and we'll keep you posted.

Motion to Adjourn made by Kate and seconded by Judith. The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 am.

Submitted by Kena Warrick, Secretary