



Hayden Island Neighborhood Network

Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 13, 2025 – 6 pm to 7:30 pm

HINooN is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87517669853?pwd=ZNqVZ6AbIKTDvQ4SgKcbG1flzvMwvb.1>

Meeting ID: 875 1766 9853

Passcode: 654478

Call to order – Presiding Officer, Pam Ferguson, Chair, HINooN

Zoom Host – Ellen Churchill, BOD

Secretary – Ellen Churchill, BOD

II. Board Member Roll Call: [P] Present [A] Absent

1	HI Manufactured Homeowners	Pam Ferguson	Chair	P
2	Columbia Point West	Michelle Wemyss	Treasurer	A
3	Lotus Isle HOA	Ellen Churchill	Secretary	P
4	HI Manufactured Homeowners	Christina Fletcher		P
5	Association of Unit Owners of Riverhouse	Martin Slapikas		P
6	HI Manufactured Homeowners	Jan Roxburgh		P
7	Columbia Point	Janet Mack		P
8	Marina River House HOA	EC Mathews		A
9	At Large	Tom Dana		P
10	At Large	Sam Churchill		P
11	Non-Profit Hayden Island-CSI	Gary Clark		P
12	Hayden Bay Homes	Rob Lewis	Land Use Chair	P
	GUESTS:			
	Kimberly Haslett, Hayden Bay Homes			

III. Establish a quorum of voting members.

Ten Board members attended. A quorum of voting members was established.

IV. Approval of January 9, 2025, HINooN Meeting Minutes – Pam Ferguson

Minutes for the January 2025 Board Meeting were approved as written.

V. Treasurer's Report – Ellen Churchill for Michelle Weymss

WF INITIATE BUSINESS CHECKING

Balance on January 31, 2025,	\$8,185.80
Deposits/Credits: R. Brounstein donations	<u>126.00</u>
<u>Balance on January 31, 2025,</u>	<u>\$8,311.80</u>

WF BUSINESS MARKET RATE SAVINGS

Ending Balance on January 31 st , 2024,	<u>\$2,533.51</u>
Total Combined Wells Fargo cash accounts January 31, 2025,	\$10,845.31

HINooN BOTTLE DROP (OBRC)

Bottle drop Account as of January 1st, 2025,	\$ 979.75
Addition to Bottle drop	\$ 114.60
Bottle drop Account as of January 31st, 2025,	\$1094.35

Total HINooN Cash on February 29th, 2025,	\$11,939.66
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Quick recap

The meeting focused on the group's efforts to prevent tolls on the Interstate Bridge and save the existing structure, with discussions on fundraising strategies, public outreach, and potential alternatives like an immersed tube tunnel. Members shared updates on recent developments, including land purchases by ODOT, and the need for increased awareness about a petition against tolls. The group also addressed organizational matters, such as the treasurer report, board positions, and plans for future meetings with commissioners and potential supporters.

Kimberly Haslett is a journalist and marketing expert. She joined the meeting and shared her experience in promoting ideas and businesses. She offered to help the group with her skills.

Gary discussed his work on the I-5 Bridge project, including a Freedom of Information request and the addition of a new section on news articles. The group then moved on to discuss the meeting minutes from January, which were accepted as written. The conversation ended with Kimberly expressing her willingness to assist the group with her expertise.

Next steps

- Pamela to work on a Mailchimp email tonight with fundraising information and petition details.
- Ellen to send her draft email to Pamela as a starting point for the Mailchimp message.
- Pamela to invite commissioners to attend the March HINooN meeting.
- Gary to provide Ellen with the mailing address for donation checks to Neighbors for a Better Crossing.
- HINooN board members to reach out to their respective HOAs about potential donations and petition signing.
- Gary to continue updating and distributing the white paper on bridge issues to HINooN members.
- Sam to share information about using Perplexity AI to search the 2,500-page bridge report.
- Pamela to contact Wells Fargo to reserve a meeting room for February 19th at 4:30 PM.
- Martin to confirm his availability for the February 19th meeting with Pamela.
- HINooN board to seek candidates for vice chair, secretary, and treasurer positions for upcoming elections.
- Pamela to ask Pat Yoder if she's interested in taking on a HINooN board position.

ODOT Land Purchase and Public Access

Kimberly discusses her contact with an OPB reporter regarding a story about ODOT potentially purchasing land on West Hayden Island. The land is described as conservation land, but there are questions about public access and recreational use. The board discusses concerns about how the land is being portrayed, including comparisons to other public parks and the lack of clarity on future public access. The purchase is part of mitigation efforts for the IBR project, but board members express skepticism about the benefits to Hayden Island residents. There are also questions about dredging plans and the potential impact on flooding. The board agrees more information is needed and **considers inviting an ODOT representative to speak at a future meeting.**

Increasing Awareness and Petition Discussion

In the meeting, Kimberly emphasized the need for increased awareness about the petition against tolls on the Interstate Bridge, as many people were unaware of its existence. She also suggested that public meetings and comment periods should be used to ask questions

about the management and access to the proposed recreational facility with the ODOT purchase of land at West Hayden Island.

Gary expressed concern about the lack of response from Dean, who runs the tolling petition website, and suggested inviting him to the next HINooN meeting to discuss the status. The group also discussed the need for more involvement from Oregon legislators and the potential misuse of federal funds for the bridge project.

Organizing Meeting and Fundraising Efforts

The board is discussing organizing a meeting in March to invite commissioners and share the board's concerns about the bridge project. The HINooN Board is considering fundraising efforts to keep a billboard sign up, with Gary suggesting they need to raise about \$12,000. Gary proposes sending out a request for support to do a tunnel instead of a bridge, which would trigger fundraising activities. The board discusses strategies for reaching out to HOAs and individuals for donations, including sending out petitions and holding public meetings. Some HOAs have budget restrictions for donations, but individual contributions are encouraged. The board wants to pass a measure to give them something concrete to present at upcoming HOA meetings.

Fundraising for Bridge Issue and Billboard

Gary proposed a fundraising event, possibly a raffle, to raise money for the bridge issue. Janet suggested approaching local businesses for donations and potential publicity. Sam suggested targeting trucking and shipping companies in Delta Park for donations. Pamela agreed to consider the idea of a fundraiser with board approval. Gary emphasized the importance of starting the fundraiser quickly to ensure the billboard campaign could continue. The team agreed to start the fundraiser immediately and aim for progress by the end of the following week.

Strategies to Save Old Bridge

The team discussed strategies to save the old Interstate Bridge and prevent tolls. Gary suggested that individuals write a check to the Neighbors4 a better Crossing and send it to the PO Box in Kenton. Gary will send the PO box address to the HINooN Board. Ellen proposed sending an email to her neighbors with a link to the Neighbors for a Better Crossing website for donations. The team also discussed the potential benefits of saving the bridge, including generating revenue from tourists for special events and the possibility of using the bridge for light rail in the future. Sam suggested using the bridge for autonomous vehicles, while Martin proposed approaching people to contribute money to fight the tolls.

Immersed Tube Tunnel Placement Discussion

Martin expressed concerns about the placement of an immersed tube tunnel, suggesting that it should be built where the population is expected to grow, rather than just to solve congestion problems. He also questioned the need for a new bridge when the population growth is uncertain. Gary agreed, noting that a tunnel could be expanded more easily than a bridge. The team also discussed a motion sent by Gary, which Pamela suggested should be condensed to its core points. However, the specifics of the motion were not fully discussed.

Supporting Island-Wide Bridge Efforts and Tunnel

In the meeting, Gary proposed a motion to support island-wide efforts to stop interstate bridge tolls and save and repurpose the historic Interstate Bridge. The motion also urged elected officials to reject the IBR's mega bridge in favor of an immersed tube tunnel. The group agreed to support the efforts of the "Neighbors 4 A Better Crossing" and to raise funds for this cause. They also discussed the potential for an immersed tube tunnel as a viable solution, which could save billions in construction costs and eliminate the need for costly tolls. The group agreed to send an email to their large Mailchimp list to raise awareness and funds for the cause.

Gary Clark made the following motion:

"HINOON BOD fully supports island-wide efforts to stop Interstate Bridge tolls and save and repurpose our historic Interstate Bridge. We urge all residents, HOAs, and business to support this effort with a donation to Neighbors For A Better Crossing at <https://neighbors4a-bettercrossing.org/>. An Immersed Tube Tunnel (ITT) is a viable solution that could save \$\$ Billions in construction costs, eliminate the need for costly "tolls," and would be considerably more resilient to earthquakes than the IBR's mega bridge. The historic Interstate Bridge could then be saved and repurposed as a revenue generating historic attraction for local businesses. Protecting our historic Interstate Bridge is of prime importance. We strongly urge elected officials in both Oregon & Washington to reject the IBR's LA style mega bridge in favor of an Immersed Tube Tunnel, by establishing an independent task force of ITT experts and local residents, to fully investigate, evaluate, and generate an Immersed Tube Tunnel design, that will meet the needs of both states. Failing to protect our historic Interstate Bridge is simply not an option."

The motion was seconded by Janet Mack. A vote was taken with 7 Board members voting for the motion and two voting against the motion. The motion passed with the majority.

Fighting Tolls, Planning Meetings, and Safety

The team discussed their ongoing efforts to fight against tolls and save the bridge. They agreed to start with Mailchimp emails, aiming to send them twice a week with different messages. They also planned to invite people to a real meeting in March. The team discussed the need for a fundraising deadline, with Gary suggesting they could come up with one later. They also discussed the distribution of a white paper, with Gary explaining that it would be available on their website for those interested in the long version.

Board Elections in March

The team also discussed the need for a new vice chair, secretary, and treasurer due to members leaving the island.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35 PM

Minutes Respectfully Submitted: Ellen Churchill, Secretary

DRAFT