



Meeting Agenda

9:30am	Welcome, Mission Statement and Guidelines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-Introductions • Review January Minutes
9:35 am	THANKS and Recap of the WBA Leadership Summit – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciation for Planning Committee: Heather Gibbs, Steve Sherlock, Peter Schrappen
9:45 am	Legislative Session Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration of the RRA • Derelict Vessel Bill • Aquatic Invasive Species Bill • Houseboat Preferred Use Bill • Marine Tourism Bill • Sales Tax Cap Bill • Boater Education Endorsement Bill • Gas Tax Cap Removal • Other?
10:15 am	Other Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Discharge Zone status • Safety Inspections Meeting report • Optional Parks fee on boat registration • Enforcement of MBE law • Westlake parking vs. bikes • Other?
10:40 am	Agency Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Agencies: DNR, DFW, RCO, Parks, DOE, PSP, DOL • Federal: USCG, US Power Squadron, USCG Auxiliary
11:25 am	Boating Group Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RBAW / NMTA / OYC Legislative Day. Feb. 19th • NMTA & Clean Boating Foundations • RBAW, NYBA, • Other: Fish Northwest, Shoreline Master Plan
12:15pm	Policy Agenda Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WBA Policy Agenda item: Gas Tax lid removal amendment (Page 5 in bold)
12:30pm	Next meeting 13th March 2014 9:30am -- location tbc (Tacoma?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to today's hosts, Eric Johnson & Garry O'Keefe of WPPA • Walk to Big Tent Event taking place in Natural Resources Building Rotunda 'til 1:30

WBA Mission Statement

The mission of the Washington Boating Alliance, an all-inclusive alliance of boating-related organizations, is to develop, advance, and implement consensus positions and proposals to enhance the recreational boating experience in Washington.



Call to Order: The Washington Boating Alliance convened in the newly-refurbished Board Room of the Northwest Marine Trade Association at Mariners Square in Seattle at 9:33am January 9th 2014. Many thanks to Peter Schrappen and George Harris for providing an elegant and hospitable space and to Martha for refreshments.

In attendance: Al Wolslegel (Parks), Paul Thorpe (RBAW), Fred Kempe (NMTA/NYBA), Martha Comfort, Chairman, Brittany Jarnot (RBAW Lobbyist), Bob Meng (NMTA Grow Boating), Fran Troje (Whitewater Boating & Boating Safety Council), Chester Baldwin (NYBA), Viggo Bertelsen (Seattle Yacht Club), Peter Schrappen (NMTA), Steve Greaves (RBAW), Bob Ranzenbach (RBAW), Terry Kohl (NYBA), Lisa Randlette (DNR) and Melissa Ferris (DNR).

The stakeholders introduced themselves and their organizations. Martha set out guidelines for participation which are: Respectful dialogue and listening even when opinions diverge, participation is all inclusive, WBA is not a lobbying organization, WBA encourages and facilitates agencies and boater groups to coordinate their efforts in order to enhance the experience of boaters in Washington.

The minutes of the December meeting were corrected and approved.

Lisa spoke with us about vessels both more than 40 years old and larger than 65'. Many commercial vessels are included here with many aging into this category each year. Rule Making is aiming to have a very simple process for buyers/sellers/brokers to administrate. DNR has had weekly meetings with Representative Hansen and Representative Smith on the matter. Also, there was a stakeholder meeting with DOL, DOE, insurance and bonding groups involved.

Draft rules propose DNR receive and file a copy of a survey with an acknowledgement form signed by buyer and seller that Buyer has seen the survey form. There was discussion of a "Bad Buyer" list of irresponsible buyers. We learned that Rep Hansen maybe in favor of mailing vessel registration renewals card to boaters. Martha to send the Bob Goodwin presentation to Melissa.

It was pointed out by many that while draft rules specify that seller is to provide a Pre-purchase survey, this is counter to current industry practice. Steve G and others suggest changing this so the Buyers pays for the survey. Is it possible for Rep Hansen to amend this part of the Law? Viggo suggests the current law would be a cash cow for lawyers, as it seems to push liability to a seller, even after purchase is completed.

Lisa again asked for feedback and several individuals were going to write or call Lisa with follow up concepts and language. A suggestion was made that Commercial vessel contribute 40 cents per foot to cover the ex-**commercial** vessels which are under discussion.

Once draft rules are finalized, Lisa is to schedule a public hearing soon.

Terry Kohl presented information about the Marine Jobs bill, which would cap sales tax on boats valued at \$300,000 and above. He reported on a positive meeting with Steve Sewell to discuss this and other matters. Representative Carlyle will put a 3 year sunset clause on the bill, which NYBA Is

ok with. The bill is estimated to raise \$4.8 annual average in additional/new tax revenue from use tax and watercraft excise tax paid by the arrival of boats which are currently not kept and do not enter into WA state waters. This is in addition to any taxes on goods and service provided to the owners of these vessels once they are here in WA. NYBA and many WBA stakeholders believe that boat washers, suppliers of repair and upgrades, equipment and sales outlets, marinas, boatyards and the living-wage job earners at all of these enterprises would benefit from this legislation.

DOR has a negative fiscal note which is based on a static calculation not the dynamic effects of the incoming vessels to homeport in Washington waters. There was some discussion. Comments were made by stakeholders in support of this legislation. No unintended consequences were noted.

There was discussion of the Budget Proviso to develop an economic cluster strategy, with the Blue Ribbon Task Force to complete work by December 2014. Rich asked if this group will look at the successful results from Florida Sales tax legislation?

Heather reported about the Habitat Conservation Program. The Federal EIS is returned and is moving to the Public Comment period in April.

Al reported on the Clean Vessel program he runs. This program assists 123 pumpouts at coastal and inland facilities. The program has pumped out over 5million gallons this year. He is working with RCO on funding for 5 floating pumpouts at the San Juan Islands which are an area of need during boating high-season. Al has \$1.3m in grants to go out in 2014 with a 25% match from the local marina or agency. He supplied a copy of the Annual Report on Recreational Boating.

Al reported that hiring is on-going to fill position of retiring Jim French as head of the Boating Safety Program and Mark Kenney, who is departing head of Law Enforcement for Parks.

Bob R asked if all of Puget Sound is to become a NDZ, which agency will be the enforcement agency? Al said this has not been worked out.

Steve reenforced for us the one number we do know: in 2014 Clean Vessel pumped out 4m gallons and in 2013 they pumped out 5.6m gallons. Boaters and Parks are working well to develop this program.

Al referred to software which is now available which will allow pumpout providers to track the free pump outs: when/where/how much was pumped with great accuracy.

Steve Greaves offered updates from RBAW. He spoke of the \$2m in bonds which are included in the Governor's supplemental Budget as a partial restoration of the \$3.3m swept last biennium. This goes a ways to keeping the account whole; it is 60% of the request made by agencies and boater organizations.

The Aquatic Invasive Species bill by DFW is a policy bill and has no funding sources.

Looking at the Bonny Lake Drivers License Endorsement Issue; a meeting will take place between the enforcement officers and RBAW to discuss further. The BEC is a diploma, a one-time \$10 card, and based on a very different model from the driver's license which is a renewable license. Law enforcement folks want to be able to access a database to show if the person has a BEC. Melissa reported that Oregon had merged their Boater Education data successfully with drivers license data.

The Meeting on Safety Inspections/Boardings has been scheduled for Feb 12th at 2pm. Location is either at Parks or NMTA.

The Lake Union Liveaboard Houseboat Association bill looks only at “are you water dependent or not”, However the unintended consequences with grey water are potentially massive and could have negative consequences for liveaboards.

Peter and Steve reported on the meeting with the Mayor’s office on the Westlake Parking issues. The \$500,000 bike trail will go through the businesses and boat users access to the waterfront. NMTA is engaging the new mayor. There is a Jan 21st 5-7pm campaign kick off on this issue. RSVP to Peter.

We are looking for the release of the NDZ Draft Petition by DOE. Questions were asked including: when is the petition coming out? Is DOE coordinating with other state agencies? Where are the \$\$ coming from? There is a coalition led by the Tug Boat operators who have significant economic concerns. RBAW is offering this group support. There is an email from previous PSP head Terry O’Keefe who is “irked” that DOE was going ahead without PSP science sign off. RBAW has been against the NDZ for over a year.

Peter reported that the Marine Tourism Bill has sponsors in place. There is proposed language by Rep. Carlyle which may make the bill less effective.

Nick Harper is now with Mayor Murray’s office.

February 19th is the Joint NMTA RBAW lobby Day.

Governor Inslee has met with NMTA and NYBA about the Big Tent meeting and the Task Force. Frank Gonzales of the Clean Boating Foundation has formalized a partnership with Sea Hawk Paint and Petite Paint.

Sargent Klein will have an AIS booth at the boat show. And Parks will have booth about the BEC.

Bob M. reported on the 360degree program at NMTA Grow Boating Committee designed to increase year round boating. The Grow Boating grant round is now open. In 2013, \$8000 was given out. This year they have several categories and hope to target as many people as possible with their grants. Info is on the website www.nmta.net.

There was discussion on the Transportation package, which several thought might be too large for this short session of the legislature. Ideally this package will include language to remove the “lid” on gas tax and allow all of the unfunded gas tax to flow to the RRA. House has said yes. The Senate may not get this to a vote. The current \$9.7m in good boating infrastructure grants could double with this lid removal.

There was an idea to add a policy line regarding “gas tax lid removal” to the WBA 2014 policy agenda.

Peter will report with PSP new director Ms Sheida Sahandy, who is from Eastern Washington.

The Meeting adjourned early at 12:25!

Respectfully submitted by Martha Comfort



1. On-going Activities

1.1	Develop consensus positions of boating organizations on boating issues.
1.2	Advocate for endorsed boating issue positions.
1.3	Be a watchdog for boating issues.
1.4	Educate, inform, and lobby for boating issues.
1.5	Develop champions for boating issue positions and funding.
1.6	Be a clearing-house for information related to boating proposals.
1.7	Coordinate consensus-building and lobbying efforts of the Alliance's organizations.
1.8	Monitor agencies' performance on boating programs.

2. Specific Functions

2.1	Renew Alliance positions to the Puget Sound Partnership.
2.2	Invite and maintain connection with DOL as a stakeholder with WBA
2.3	Develop consensus on various positions for input to agency boating-related advisory committees and councils.
2.3	Develop background information on what is currently being spent on boating programs.
2.4	Develop background information on what taxes and fees boaters currently pay.

3. WBA 2014 Legislative Proposals / Positions

3.1	<p>Recreation Resource Account: A key priority for WBA is to leave this account to its dedicated purpose of developing and maintaining boating infrastructure. WBA strongly opposes any effort to divert these funds from their intended purpose. If necessary, WBA supports using general obligation bonds on a temporary basis to keep the RRA whole.</p>
3.2	<p>No-Discharge Zone: WBA shares the underlying goal of a cleaner Puget Sound and supports the continued study of the Puget Sound No-Discharge Zone.</p>
3.3	<p>Marine Tourism Bill: WBA supports change to the cruising permit policy that would allow entity-owned vessels visiting Washington State waterways to have the same rights as individual-owned vessels.</p>
3.4	<p>Derelict Vessels: WBA believes commercial vessels also need to pay for removal of derelict vessels.</p>
3.5	<p>WBA supports removal of the lid on Gas Tax allowing unrefunded gas tax money paid by boaters to flow back to the Recreational Resource Account.</p>

4. Ideas for the Future

4.1	Engage an Intern to do outreach on behalf of WBA
4.2	Build WBA as part of the 'Big Tent'
4.3	Develop consensus positions
4.4	How can we improve the current discussion forum?

(Bold items added / changed since last meeting)



Organization Partners

Recreational Boating Association of Washington (RBAW)
Northwest Marine Trade Association (NMTA)
Northwest Yacht Brokers Association (NYBA)
US Power Squadron
USCG Auxiliary
Seattle Yacht Club (SYC)
Queen City Yacht Club (QCYC)
Rivers Safety Council (RSC)
Washington Water Trails Association
Puget Sound Anglers
Kitsap Poggie Club
Tacoma Outboard Association
Tacoma Youth Marine Center

Corporate Partners

International Marine Management Institute, Martha Comfort

Agency Partners

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW)
Washington Department of Ecology (DOE)
Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)
Washington Department of Licensing (DOL)
Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Puget Sound Partnership
US Coast Guard District 13
Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA)
Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC)

Advising Lobbyists

RBAW, Doug Levy
NMTA, Cliff Webster
NYBA, Terry Cole
WASPC, Don Pierce

WBA Contact Information

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