**LWVSJ Observer Corps\* Notes Friday Harbor Port Commission – January 25, 2023**

An e-mail public comment asked that **noise abatement** be a consideration in new leases and in **support of the Innovation Center** proposal (see below).

**New staff** members in **dock manufacturing** and **capital projects** were introduced.

The board reviewed incoming lease proposals for properties in the recent RFP:

**Tarragon** proposed for t**hree Spring Street lots** to build a flexible space for **light industrial and warehouse applications.** The Commission agreed to hold the property for Tarragon for 3-4 months to develop a detailed proposal and lease negotiations, perhaps with a different parking, without an additional parcel, and fronting the buildings on Spring.

**San Juan Outfitters** proposed for a **one-acre Weber Way lot** to build a 4000 sq ft of **warehouse space for outdoor equipment storage, a commercial kitchen and vehicle parking.** The Commission agreed to enter lease negotiations on a more detailed proposal. They had mixed reaction to adding seasonal workforce housing.

**A** local **coalition** that earlier proposed **a business incubation/maker space** told the Commission the **coalition has more partners**, including Skagit Valley College and envisions a larger **Innovation Center,** possibly on **multiple port properties,** including a three-acre Weber Way plot in the RFP. They asked the Port not to lease any of the parcels until they complete and present a feasibility study. The Commission noted that **under their** newly adopted **lease policy, they would not be considering any other new leases until July, by which time the coalition expects to have its proposal ready**.

Commission decided **not to act on a proposal to compost, grind stumps, and crush glass** on a parcel that was not advertised, has noise restrictions, and needs a conditional use permit.

At upcoming meetings the Commission will **review what parcels to advertise** for proposals to be considered **in July**.

Commissioners reported **good feedback** on the **newsletter,** **many comments on Jensen/Ship Yard Cove;** that **Opalco** wants to talk to the Commission about **solar power**, and support for the upcoming **Tribal Canoe Journey** in May. They plan a **February 4 listening session.**

Staff reported on the **serious flooding effects of the King Tides on Port property** with video replay.

\*The **League of Women Voters,** a nonpartisan organization encourages informed participation in government. The Observer Corps attends and takes notes at government meetings to expand public understanding of public policy and decisions. The notes do not necessarily reflect the views of the League or its members.