

2021 BOAT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Annual meeting held on Saturday August 7, 2021.

Recognition of thanks to the BAC members, the Board of Overseers, Painter Soule, the new Boat Manager, and the remainder of the Lilly B crew. All have continued to extend themselves on behalf of the Bustins Island community as we worked through the Covid 19 emergency.

Report included a summary of not only the preparation for the 2021 season but also the 2020 season. The goal each year has been to safely provide transport to and from the island remaining in compliance with all guidelines from the CDC as well as the State of Maine and Dept of Transportation. All recommendations applied to mask wearing, social distancing and number of passengers per run. Additionally, the BAC last year recommended a reservation system to have contactless payment and a system for islanders to make advanced reservations online.

Decisions during the past 2 years focused on schedules, number of runs per day and establishing protocols designed to keep all safe. The BAC plans to re-visit the schedule during the off season to bring back things such as social trips, round trip fares as well as other topics presented to either the boat crew or to a member of the BAC. The reason for a greater frequency of runs was to accommodate the needs of islanders as limits remained on the number of passengers per trip. The BAC is hopeful the number of restrictions can be reduced during the 2022 season.

The XOLA reservation program utilized for the Lilly B has been successful, but it has not been without its flaws. Off season discussion will include a hybrid type of system where islanders can still make reservations, but others may choose to walk on and pay. It will be recommended to use electronic payment only. Both the old square and perhaps a program within xola will be explored. Research is presently being done to provide a marine booster to enable improved cellular service for not only the crew but also for passengers.

Question and Answer session was held.

Submitted by BAC Chair Bob Canu