

PORT OF BELLINGHAM

MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017
HARBOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Writer
Gene Knutson
Brian Pemberton
Byron Richards
Paul Burill
Peter Border
Bill Douglas

Committee Members Absent:

Port Representatives Present:

Kyle Randolph
Andy Peterson
Tamara Sobjack
Alan Birdsall

Committee Members Excused:

Ian Puchlik
Jim Kyle

Visitors/Guests:

Jason Reid
Dan Robbins
Dave King

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Minutes

Gene Knutson made a motion to accept the February 14, 2017 minutes as written, which was seconded by Peter Border and passed unanimously by the MAC.

Public Comment

Jason Reid of Pacific Marine Electric commented on a proposed homeless shelter that may be located on City of Bellingham property in the near future. Mr. Reid stated that his organization is one of five businesses who may be expected to vacate the property in question by April 1, 2018. Mr. Reid felt that his current location, with access to launch facilities at the Landings at Colony Wharf, was critical to his business and felt that a move off-site would negatively impact his operations. Gene Knutson, who is on the City Council, stated that the City Council will be reviewing the proposed shelter location before a final decision is made.

Dockside Feedback

No dockside feedback was provided.

Seabin Skimmer

The MAC discussed a product called the “Seabin.” This product, although not yet in production, appears to efficiently remove debris from the water with little impact to marina operations or local wildlife. With little information about the product available, and all attempts to contact the manufacturer unsuccessful, the MAC felt that serious discussion about the product would need to be put on hold until a product was made available. Later in the meeting Commissioner Dan Robbins suggested that Port staff reach out to Bellingham Marine Industries, who had been working on a similar trash skimming product that may be available to test in the harbor.

MAC Membership Policy Review

Kyle gave a brief overview of the structure of the Marina Advisory Committee and read excerpts from Resolution 1144. Brian took this opportunity to inform the MAC that he would be finishing his term with the MAC effective the end of the year. A brief discussion ensued about filling vacant positions in the future.

MAC Application Consideration

Brian Pemberton introduced Dave King, a local marine business owner and MAC applicant. Brian explained Mr. King’s relevant experience, including being a former U.S. Coast Guard Commander as well as a Marine Trades business owner. Mr. King stated that he was also a former liveaboard at a private marina and hoped that the MAC would consider his experience a valuable asset to the committee.

When the introductions were over the MAC asked Mr. King to leave the room. After a brief deliberation Jerry Writer made a motion to accept Mr. King as a member. The motion was seconded by Bill Douglas and approved unanimously by the MAC. The recommendation will be forwarded to the Commission for approval at the April 4, 2017 Commission meeting.

Staff Updates

Kyle gave a brief update on the work being done at the Squilicum boat launch. Although the completion of the project was delayed due to unforeseen circumstances, the contractor had found a resolution to the delay and expected it to be back online within 30 days.

Andy Peterson asked whether the MAC would be interested in a tour of the new All American Marine building. The MAC was interested in a tour, and a brief discussion ensued relating to the positive impact this new facility would have for the Marine Trades and the local community.

With no further business the March 14, 2017 MAC meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.