

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM  
MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022  
MEETING: ZOOM  
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

**Minutes**

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**Committee Members Present:**

Dick Cathell	Paul Burrill
Peter Border	Ross Tennant
Lisa Anderson	Charlie Hawkins
Loren Kapp	Linda Thomson
Faith Worthly	Julie Winkler

**Committee Members Absent:**

Robert Brooks  
Stan Campbell

**Committee Members Excused:**

Jim Kyle  
Ross Tennant

**Visitors/Guests:**

POB Commissioner Bell  
POB Commissioner Shepherd  
POB Commissioner Briscoe  
Rob Fix, Executive Director

**Port Representatives present**

Andy Peterson  
Pam Taft  
Aaron Bisson  
Tiffany DeSimone

**Roll Call**

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

**Minutes**

Motion to approve March meeting minutes, seconded with unanimous support.

**Public Comment**

None

**Dockside Feedback**

Dick Cathell directed a question to Rob Fix and Commissioner Bell regarding Harcourt. He said that a Gate 3 boater asked why it was taking so long to construct the condos. Rob responded that they are on schedule and is going as expected. There is a lot of behind the scenes work that goes into a project before construction starts. Rob went on to say that pile driving will be the next phase with expected opening in summer 2023. He also stated that there is a lender involved in the project so with that vested interest, they would step in and finish the project if Harcourt didn't.

Peter Border gave staff kudos for the Gate 3 bathrooms. He said they are fantastic. Dick mentioned to pass that along to the maintenance staff who did the work.

### **In-Person Meeting**

Next meeting, May 10, 2022 will be an in-person meeting. No zoom option will be available.

### **Moorage Rate Update**

Tiffany DeSimone had a Power Point presentation on the Moorage Rate update. A copy of the presentation is attached to the minutes. After her presentation there were questions from the group:

- Building a CPI into the model [Rob likes the idea of CPI but the timing isn't right to implement CPI. Maybe in the future when rates get to where they need to be.]
- How will this get communicated to the boaters? A list of the harbor improvement, customer service projects, security, etc. should be sent out to the boaters so they can associate rate increases with increases in various services and/or new projects.
- There was some discussion about the rates in the out-years >2026. Rob and Tiffany both stated that we're not looking that far and only up through 2030 should have been shown to avoid confusion. The Commission adopt a four-year model and require the model to be reviewed in the fourth year. Adjustments can be made to rates, projects, etc. during that review.
- Clarify the method that was used (i.e. market, supply demand). Staff agreed to clarify when discussing the method to distinguish that it is not a true market nor supply/demand, but rather a little of both in using an increase to move rates more to the middle of regional marina rates, which are the slips that have the longest waiting list (demand).
- A question was asked if Dry Stack storage was in the future and if it could be priced to favor the smaller boats using the dry stack. Rob responded that the Port doesn't have the land for dry stack.

Paul thanked Rob and the Commissioners for attending the meeting and for keeping rates and tax dollars low. He asked if any of them would like to say anything.

Dick Cathell made a motion to recommend to the Commission the model as presented with the caveat that staff does more on the communication piece as discussed above. Loren Kapp seconded the motion and unanimous support from the group.

Commissioner Briscoe thanked the MAC for the work they do to help the Commission in their decision making.

Commissioner Shepherd appreciates the discussion this evening and explained the balancing act of keeping rates low while trying to manage the facility. He would like to keep boating affordable so everyone can enjoy it. He values the discussion with the MAC on the rates.

### **Staff Updates**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.