

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM  
MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING  
TUESDAY, May 10, 2022  
MEETING: ZOOM  
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

**Minutes**

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**Committee Members Present:**

Dick Cathell	Paul Burrill
Peter Border	Ross Tennant
Charlie Hawkins	Julie Winkler
Loren Kapp	Faith Worthly
Jim Kyle	

**Committee Members Absent:**

**Committee Members Excused:**

Lisa Anderson  
Stan Campbell  
Linda Thomson

**Visitors/Guests:**

POB Commissioner Bell

**Port Representatives present**

Tiffany DeSimone  
Andy Peterson  
Aaron Bisson

**Roll Call**

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

**Minutes**

Motion to approve April meeting minutes was made by Paul Burrill, seconded with unanimous support.

**Public Comment**

None

**Dockside Feedback**

Dick Cathell relayed a moorage rate question from a pleasure boater moored in Squalicum harbor at Gate 5 and expressed his appreciation that the Port was receptive to customer feedback.

Peter Border provided an update on the well-attended Opening Day festivities at Squalicum Harbor. Peter also mentioned that U.S. Coast Guard Station Bellingham will host a public open house on May 21, 2022. Peter will provide more details for the Port to share on our social media platforms. Peter was also happy to hear that the annual Fisherman's Memorial will be held in the Fisherman's Pavilion this year.

Julie Winkler mentioned that more pet waste bags were needed at Gate 3 and was hopeful that more boaters would pick up after their pets.

Rob Brooks shared that he and his family had attended the Blaine Harbor Commercial Blessing of the Fleet and received many comments on how nice Blaine Harbor is.

Faith Worthly shared some concern on how busy the Gate 3 garbage and recycling area had become so early in the season. Squalicum Harbormaster Aaron Bisson said the harbor staff is working with SSC to address the garbage pick-ups. Faith also had a question about the repairs on the Gate 3 clothes washers and Aaron provided an update on the repairs.

Loren Kapp reminded the committee about upcoming Job Fair and said 37 businesses were scheduled to attend. Andy agreed to send the promotional flier out to the committee members by email.

### **Summer Recess**

The MAC unanimously agreed the monthly meetings will resume in September. Port staff proposed reaching out to the MAC if any issues of interest to the MAC arose over the recess and encouraged committee members to contact staff at any time during the summer recess if they had any immediate needs or questions. The next in-person MAC meeting will be September 13, 2022 at 6:00pm.

### **Moorage Rate Update**

Tiffany DeSimone shared that the new moorage formula for Blaine and Squalicum Harbors would be considered for approval at the next Commission Meeting and asked for any feedback from the committee. The group felt it was important to put some effort into making customers aware of the new moorage rates and how the money would impact facility improvements. Jim Kyle, Loren Kapp and Julie Winkler provided some suggestions on reaching out customers and Tiffany DeSimone said that staff will be using the marina newsletter and letters and email to notify customers 30 days in advance. Port Commissioner Ken Bell commended Port staff for their efforts to gather information and make this process transparent.

### **Staff Updates**

Tiffany provided an update on the rate structure for renters of the Fisherman's Pavilion and provided some details on the administration of the facility. The Pavilion will be available for net repairs from October thru May. June thru September the facility will be available to the public for events. There was general consensus among the MAC that the hourly rates were lower than many other facilities. Commissioner Bell commented that the Port will be gathering data on how the building is used and Tiffany said that the port will provide feedback to the MAC once we have gathered some experience managing this new waterfront asset.

Aaron provided a brief update on the new gates to control vehicle access on North and South Harbor Loop roads at Squalicum Harbor. Aaron explained that eth security guard will be available to assist authorized people needing access to the facility after hours.

Aaron provided an update on the new credit card swipers in the Gate 3 showers. Staff is hopeful that the transition to cashless payments will eliminate vandalism and theft, improve customer convenience, and reduce operating costs to administer change collection. Staff will begin installing cashless payment

equipment at the Gate 3 Comfort Station and the Gate 12 Visitor Moorage Check-in as more equipment becomes available.

Aaron announced that both harbors will offer extended operating hours this summer. The Squalicum Harbor offices will be opened from 7am to 7pm and the Blaine Harbor will be open 8am to 7pm. As a reminder both harbor offices are open seven days per week.

Before the meeting concluded, Commissioner Bell discussed the number of successful projects the Port has completed over the past several years and mentioned some economic development opportunities including assistance for Sumas in the wake of the devastating floods.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.