

PORT OF BELLINGHAM

MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2009 SQUALICUM HARBOR OFFICE BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Peter Border
Ryan Kapp
Tim Mumford
Joe Orem
Jim Splaine
Jerry Writer

Committee Members Absent

Mark Gumley
Gene Knutson

Port Representatives Present:

Dan Stahl
Mike Endsley

Committee Members Excused

Cliff Cultee
Jeff Hegedus
Ron Kleinknecht
Paul Lavelle
Doug Sterrett
Roger Van Dyken
Jim Young

Visitors/ Guests:

Roll Call

Jim Splaine, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Jeff Hegedus, Chair, was excused from tonight's meeting.

Welcome New Member

Cliff Cultee is the new member from the Lummi Nation. Cliff is a commercial fisherman and had an opening today, and as such was unable to attend tonight's meeting. We look forward to having him at our next meeting.

May 12, 2009 and June 9, 2009 Minutes

Both the May 12 and June 9 minutes were approved without edits. (The Rules of Order for the MAC passed on February 12, 2008 define a quorum as five members.)

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Dockside Feedback

New item from Jeff Hegedus:

The intent of this item is to give MAC members the time to talk about what they are hearing on the docks as it relates to Port operations to make sure that we provide that feedback loop to the Port. Often these are issues that are more subtle, more mundane as opposed to the larger, bigger planning issues but nonetheless it is part of our charge and we want to make sure we keep a focus on it.

Gate 12 – Bellwether Update

Mike gave the MAC an update on construction activity that took place over the summer at Bellwether Gate. This included what comments and feedback the Harbor Office received from boaters moored at Gate 12. In the earliest stages of construction, Port Staff received mostly concerns about parking. Mike reminded the MAC that the Bellwether parking garage was opened to Gate 12 boaters for long term use. Although the summer was quite busy, he believed that the availability of parking in the garage and the increased size of the loading zone better facilitated the needs of our boating community on the Bellwether Peninsula. Mike also informed the MAC that the Port and Ebenal were finalizing the details of construction for Building B. Mike assured the MAC that pertinent details associated with the development of Building B would be shared in a timely manner.

NOAA Update

Dan reviewed for the MAC the NOAA schedule items since their last meeting. The Port was informed on August 4th that NOAA would in fact be going to the Port of Newport in Oregon. Port staff was offered the opportunity to attend a debriefing with NOAA officials on Monday, August 17, at Sandpoint which the Port took advantage of. The Port Commission subsequently met on Wednesday, August 19, two days later and, with the information available, decided that they would not appeal NOAA's decision. Based on further analysis, a significant factor being the flood plain issue that has been articulated in the local newspaper, the Port Commission decided that it would in fact appeal NOAA's decision at an open meeting on Thursday, August 27. Our current understanding is that the GAO (Government Accountability Office) is reviewing this matter and will provide some feedback to the Port by the end of September. At that time the Port will review its options and decide how to proceed. The MAC was appreciative of the Port's work in trying to attract NOAA to the shipping terminal and asked to be kept apprised of future updates.

Whatcom Waterway ASB Update

Dan distributed a new aerial photograph of the GP site which shows how significant GP's demolition efforts have been and how clean the site looks.

Dan then reviewed some of the history of the port's "one project – one permit" approach to the Whatcom Waterway Cleanup and Marina development. Due to the scope and complexity of the project, the Port has decided that a further extension of effort and time was warranted to further analyze design alternatives and construction sequences in relation to completing the "30% design level" stage. To accomplish this, the Port has decided to move further along the design review path. This should give the Port a 30% design level cost estimate with much greater confidence. Once this is done, the Port will

then proceed with producing the Preliminary Design Concept Report. This is a specific deliverable to the Dept of Ecology. This report is required to meet the anticipated spring of 2010 proposed permit submittal timeframe.

Agreement with the Lummi Nation

Dan reviewed the documents that were recently approved by both the Lummi Nation and the Port Commission. This included the Framework Agreement and Implementation Agreement No. 1. Dan reviewed the list of projects that were listed in Exhibit B (page 1).

Clean-up and Habitat Restoration Project Summaries and Figures:

1. Fairhaven Shipyard Clean-up and Habitat Restoration (MTCAs Site Name: Harris Avenue Shipyard)
2. Cornwall Avenue Landfill Clean-up and Habitat Restoration
3. Whatcom Waterway Site Clean-Up and Clean Ocean Marina
4. I&J Waterway
5. Seaview North (former Weldcraft) Clean-Up and Habitat Restoration Monitoring and Contingency Actions
6. Squalicum Creek Estuarine and Fish Passage at Roeder

Commercial Project Summaries and Figures

7. Fairhaven Shipyard/New Dry-dock
8. Fairhaven Master Plan
9. The Waterfront District Master Plan FEIS
10. Gate 3 Squalicum Marine Re-Alignment and Maintenance Dredging
11. Squalicum Waterway Marine Access & Shoreline Restoration
12. State Harbor Line Adjustment
13. I&J Waterway Commercial/Recreational Boat Haul Out
14. Blaine Harbor Facility Improvements
15. Bellingham Shipping Terminal Improvements

The Port looks forward to a closer working relationship with the Lummi nation. Staff will keep the MAC updated as issues come up that relate to the Port's water related facilities.

Power Cords

Mike reviewed with the MAC the Commission approval of Rules and Regulations language change associated with power cords. Mike reminded the membership that the language was unanimously approved by the MAC at the May meeting pending legal review. The proposed language was then reviewed by the Port's legal counsel and unanimously approved by the Port Commission on July 7th, 2009. Mike provided a brief overview of the program associated with the new language. Mike also thanked the Harbor Awareness Team for their involvement with the development of the new language.

Garbage Expenses at Squalicum

Mike updated the MAC on the status of the 2010 draft operating budget in regard to garbage expenses. For the first time, this line item will exceed \$200,000 on an annual basis. Mike discussed his concern with the rate at which this expense is increasing. A lively discussion ensued about ways that the Port and its tenants might be able to reduce

these expenses in the future. Mike will report back to MAC in 2010 on our program and his quest to reduce garbage expenses.

With no further agenda items, Jim Splaine adjourned the meeting at 7:55pm.