

PORT OF BELLINGHAM

**MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2012
SQUALICUM BOATHOUSE
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Peter Border
Jeff Hegedus
Ron Kleinknecht
Gene Knutson
Joe Orem
Brian Pemberton
Doug Sterrett
Jim Young

Committee Members Absent:

Lummi Representative
Jerry Writer

Port Representatives Present:

Dan Stahl
Mike Endsley
Andy Peterson
Pam Taft

Committee Members Excused:

Paul Lavelle

Visitors/Guests:

16 total, but no sign in sheet was used.

Roll Call

Jeff Hegedus called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

March 13, 2012 Minutes

The March 13, 2012 minutes were reviewed. It was noted that the March 13 meeting was called to order by Jeff Hegedus, not Brian Pemberton. A motion was made by Gene Knutson to approve the minutes as corrected. This was seconded by Peter Border and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Elizabeth Kilanowski had two comments. One was about asking the MAC if they are aware of any broader safety plans to get people off the docks in a large emergency, for example on Opening Day or on a busy time in the marina in the summer. Her second comment was a request for continued consideration of a new fire boat for the harbor.

Update and Discussion of G East Fire

Mike Endsley started the discussion by giving an overview of the presentation for this evening. Neil Clement, the Port's Emergency Manager, would review the situation since the boathouse fire on March 30. Dan Stahl would then discuss items on moving forward. With that the floor was turned over to Neil. Neil described in some detail how this situation has evolved from the first 911 call on Friday morning, March 30, until the present date. Neil incorporated the incident command system coordination with police, fire, coast guard and other federal authorities. This also included the declaration of a crime scene by the police department with a very careful, methodical removal of all materials from the marina to a safe location on the GP property where they could be analyzed and investigated. During this discussion there were numerous questions and answers from audience regarding particulars.

When Neil finished, Dan Stahl talked about issues moving forward. This includes additional dialogue with the City of Bellingham in any kind of after-action discussion that they may have. Dan also described the discussions that the Port has had with the owners of the G East boathouses. This included dialogue about rebuilding their boat house.

Toward the end of that discussion, Gene Knutson, member of the Bellingham City Council and an ex-officio member of the MAC, on behalf of the City offered his condolences to the families of Jim Langei and Sterling Taylor and his gratitude on behalf of police and fire for the Port's professionalism and responsiveness in working with City staff in this terrible incident.

Dockside Feedback

Doug Sterrett discussed concerns about dock cart availability in Blaine at Gate 1. Andy Peterson was able to answer his questions.

Both Jim Young and Peter Border asked for further dialogue about pushing for a fire boat for coverage in the harbor. It was discussed that this issue will be folded into the future dialogue with the City in the aftermath of the fire to see what avenues are available for future development and funding for such a boat.

There being no further business the MAC was adjourned at 7:34 pm.