

PORT OF BELLINGHAM

MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016
BLAINE BOATING CENTER
BLAINE, WASHINGTON

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Elizabeth Kilanowski
Jerry Writer
Brian Pemberton
Paul Burrill
Jim Kyle
Peter Border
Bill Douglas

Committee Members Absent:

Port Representatives Present:

Kyle Randolph
Andy Peterson
Dan Stahl

Committee Members Excused:

Ian Puchlik
Gene Knutson
Byron Richards

Visitors/Guests:

Commissioner Robbins
Bert Rubash
Gerald Petrie
Brian Pernulla
Marilyn Rockwell-Bengen
Barb France
Tom Dorsey

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

Minutes

Jim Kyle made a motion to accept the September 13, 2016 minutes as written, which was seconded by Peter Border and passed unanimously by the MAC.

Dockside Feedback

Paul Burill described a recent situation where a Port upland lease tenant temporarily subleased space on his dock to a competing crab buyer. Paul was approached by other Blaine upland lease tenants about the incident and wanted to bring awareness to the issue. Paul requested clarification on how the Port reviews requests from their tenants to sublease their docks. A brief conversation ensued about the merits of free trade vs. the potential for an unfair competitive advantage for those who sublease Port facilities short-term without the long-term costs

associated with upland leases. It was decided that Port staff would bring the issue to the Port's Real Estate Division, who manages the Port's upland lease tenants.

Elizabeth Kilanowski raised a concern about vandalism and theft at Squalicum Harbor. Elizabeth recently had her bicycle vandalized while secured to a bike rack on Port property, possibly by a nearby transient population. She was concerned that this was becoming a long term problem and hoped the Port would take action that included posting signs at the bike racks indicating that they were not suitable for long-term storage. Kyle agreed with her suggestions and promised to follow through with them in a timely manner.

Blaine Harbor Overview

Andy Peterson gave a short presentation on the history of the Blaine Harbor development, which depicted the changes that have occurred to the Blaine Harbor over time.

HOPR (Harbor Operations, Procedures and Rates) Overview

Kyle Randolph reviewed the HOPR with the MAC, which is a document approved by the Port Commission on October 4, 2016 and merges the existing Harbor Rules, Regulations and Procedures with the Port of Bellingham Moorage Tariff Number 1. After reviewing the document, Peter Border questioned why there was not a rate differential between the two harbors considering they are at different locations. The MAC agreed this was a question that could be addressed at the next moorage model review.

Squalicum Harbor Gate 3 Power Upgrade Update

Kyle gave a brief update on the Gate 3 power improvement project which will increase power capacity at select locations on Gate 3. Kyle mentioned that the project was still on track to be completed in late spring of 2017 and informed the MAC that the harbors would begin developing literature aimed at educating boaters on proper shore power management. Kyle also said that staff was thinking of having a presentation on dock electrical safety at the harbors. He said that staff was hoping that the MAC would be willing to host this presentation at their January meeting, which the MAC supported and felt would be a good fit for the January agenda.

Staff Updates

Kyle and Andy gave updates on the status of the liveaboard program at their respective harbors. Kyle indicated that nearly all of the existing approved liveaboards at Squalicum Harbor had decided to renew their liveaboard status, and that so far an additional 33 customers had signed up for liveaboard approval. More are expected to apply over the next few months. Andy stated that they expect to pick up 12 new customers as a result of the liveaboard approval process and will reach their liveaboard cap of 50 liveaboards very soon.

Kyle then gave a recap of SeaFeast, which occurred on October 1st. Kyle stated that SeaFeast exceeded his expectations and was well received by everyone involved. There were numerous art displays, many commercial fishing boats were on display for visitors to view, a salmon cooking contest, and much more. A head count was not yet known, however Jim Kyle stated that one seafood vendor gave out over 3,000 salmon sliders during the event.

Public Comment

Gerald Petrie, a liveaboard at Blaine Harbor, requested that Blaine Harbor not put gate codes on small cards which could end up in the hands of non-boaters. He also wanted to let staff know that he thought Blaine Harbor Marine Service Rep (MSR) Laurel was doing a great job and her efforts were appreciated.

Tom Dorsey stated that he felt Blaine Harbor was very well run compared to the many other harbors he has visited since moving from Long Beach 17 years prior.

With no further business the October 11, 2016 MAC meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.