

PORT OF BELLINGHAM

**MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016
HARBOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Writer
Brian Pemberton
Paul Burrill
Jim Kyle

Committee Members Absent:

Bill Douglas

Port Representatives Present:

Kyle Randolph
Andy Peterson
Dan Stahl
Pam Taft

Committee Members Excused:

Ian Puchlik
Gene Knutson
Byron Richards
Elizabeth Kilanowski
Peter Border

Visitors/Guests:

Commissioner Robbins
Debbie Granger

Roll Call

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

Minutes

Jerry Writer made a motion to accept the October 11, 2016 minutes as written, which was seconded by Jim Kyle. Because there were not enough MAC members to establish a quorum, the vote to approve the minutes as written was deferred to the December MAC meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Dockside Feedback

There was no dockside feedback.

Harbor Winterization Process

Kyle Randolph and Andy Peterson discussed the harbor's plan for winter weather at both harbors. It had been previously decided by Port staff that, rather than preemptively shutting down water flow to the docks, harbor staff would pay close attention to the weather forecasts throughout the winter season and only shut down water access when temperatures were predicted to be below freezing for an extended period of time. Should such freeze occur, to prevent

expensive freeze damage harbor staff will then preemptively shut down potable water flow and access to waste pumpouts until temperatures climb above freezing again. Staff also requested that boaters disconnect their hoses from the dockside faucets to prevent freeze damage to them. As always, water to the weblocker buildings will be shut down in November to reduce the likelihood of pipe breakage and potential property damage. Additionally, staff discussed snowplow schedules at both harbors and reminded the MAC that sand would be provided near the ramps so that customers could sand them for better foot grip during a freeze.

SeaFeast Recap

Debbie Granger gave a presentation recapping the SeaFeast event that occurred at Squalicum Harbor on October 1st. Debbie wanted to express her appreciation to those who participated in the event, including the Port of Bellingham, the City of Bellingham, numerous marine trades organizations and the commercial fishing community. Debbie said that the ultimate goal of SeaFeast was to celebrate the commercial fishing industry and its impact on Whatcom County.

The SeaFeast event included a salmon BBQ contest, a live US Coast Guard helicopter rescue training, an education booth, tours of Bellingham Cold Storage, numerous art booths, live entertainment and much more. In total, Debbie estimated 5,000 people attended the event and nearly every food vendor sold out of food. Jim Kyle added that he noticed how SeaFeast has increased public awareness in marine trades and the positive impact they have on the local community.

Staff Updates

Kyle Randolph gave a brief update about the Pacific Marine Expo, an annual trade show focusing on marine trades and the commercial fishing industry. The Port of Bellingham will have a booth at this event and Port staff encouraged MAC members to volunteer at the booth if they had a desire to do so. The Port booth will be showcasing the SeaFeast film “Servants of the Salish Sea,” which highlights the fishing industry process from “sea to plate.”

Kyle then gave an update on the efforts to manage the Permitted Open Trailer Storage policy which went into effect early in 2016. Kyle stated that great efforts have been made to identify abandoned gear through this process, which has resulted in the disposal of thousands of pounds of abandoned equipment and trailers. Several MAC members stated that they have noticed these efforts and that the areas have improved over the last year in terms of organization and aesthetics.

Andy Peterson gave a brief update about the recent repairs to the Blaine sawtooth. These repairs have now provided an additional point of access to the sawtooth from the South end of the pier.

Dan Stahl mentioned that he will be shifting some of his focus away from marina operations so that he can spend more time working on business development issues for the Bellingham Shipping Terminal. This shift in focus will likely require him to take a less active role with the MAC. Kyle Randolph, Andy Peterson, and Pam Taft will be taking a more active role in the MAC as a result.

With no further business the November 8, 2016 MAC meeting adjourned at 6:55 pm.