

# PORT OF BELLINGHAM

## MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016 SQUALICUM HARBOR BOATHOUSE BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON MEETING MINUTES

### Attendance

Members present	Members absent	Port staff	Guests
Elizabeth Kilanowski	Jim Young	Andy Peterson	Dan Robbins
Bill Douglas	Jerry Writer	Dan Stahl	Burt Rubash
Jim Kyle	Brian Pemberton	Kyle Randolph	*See sign-in sheet attachment #1*
Ian Puchlik	Paul Burrill	Pam Taft	
Byron Richards	Gene Knutson		
Peter Border			

### Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. The Roll call was taken, establishing a quorum.

### Minutes

Dan Stahl started the meeting by talking to the MAC about who would run the meeting, given the excused absence of both the MAC Chair (Brian Pemberton) and Vice Chair (Jim Young). A discussion ensued with the MAC suggesting several names. The discussion concluded with the MAC asking Dan Stahl to run the evening's meeting.

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting was made by Peter Border and seconded by Bill Douglas. The minutes were passed unanimously.

Dan asked the audience, which was larger than usual, if anyone present had never attended a MAC meeting. As there were several hands raised, Dan briefly discussed the purpose of the MAC and their role in making non-binding policy recommendations to the Port Commissioners. Dan also gave a brief history of how the liveboard program was brought to the attention of the MAC over recent years by some MAC members and why proposed changes to the liveboard regulations were on the Agenda for the night.

### Liveboard Policy-Changes from Last Meeting

Andy Peterson then went through the proposed regulations (attachment #2) section by section and talked about any changes that had been made resulting from comments and input received at the April MAC meeting. The MAC decided to hold discussion on each topic until after the public comment period.

## **Public Comment**

To reduce redundancy in these minutes, duplicate topics from multiple speakers will be condensed into groups. Although efforts have been made to include the names of all speakers, it is possible that some names were missed. Every effort has been made to accurately represent all topics discussed.

**Liveboard Fee:** Several liveboard customers, including Vic Cano, Wayne Seymour, Tom Anderson, Ed Lee, Michael Bucove, Marc Makowski, Julie Winkler, and Darrell Hill commented on the proposed liveboard fee and questioned its basis. All speakers mentioned that there should be no liveboard fee and that any cost incurred by liveboards was outweighed by the security they bring to the harbor by being present throughout the day and night. Some also questioned why a Liveboard fee would be charged in Blaine with the current vacancy rate. There was also a request for clarification on whether the proposed fee was \$25 per person or \$25 per vessel as they felt the regulation was not clearly written.

**Applying for Liveboard Status:** Dan Hagerty and Darrell Hill posed the question on when customers are required to apply for Liveboard status, and if an application has already been submitted whether or not they have to reapply at a later date.

**Definition of a liveboard:** Vic Cano, Julie Winkler, Darell Hill asked how the proposed rules and regulations applied to individuals who live aboard their vessel seasonally.

**Impacts from other users:** Marc Makowski, Connie VanSchenk, Tom Anderson commented that many of the costs listed as justification for liveboard fees are also created by other harbor users as well as the general public.

**Enforcement:** Marilyn Rockwell Bengen and Julie Winkler commented on enforcing the current regulations for all moorage customers.

**Peter Van Schenk:** Questioned the definition of ‘couple,’ particularly asking if same-sex roommates (not in a domestic relationship) can live on a boat.

Other comments brought forth from the audience: minimum boat size, the definition of a family, and enforcing MSD compliance for all moorage customers.

## **Liveboard Policy-MAC Discussion**

After the public comment period the MAC began a lively discussion on each of the proposed regulations. As each of the proposed regulations were discussed, motions were made, seconded, and voted in favor of several changes to the wording of the proposed regulations. A total of five amendments were made to the draft document. These changes were made to regulations pertaining to the definition of a liveboard, the liveboard fee, allowance for vehicle parking and storage, and how to respond to unauthorized individuals living aboard their vessels.

After the MAC worked their way through all thirteen items, a motion was made by Ian Puchlik and seconded by Peter Border to adopt the proposed liveboard rules, regulations and procedures

with the five modifications made by the MAC included. The motion passed with five in favor, one against, with Elizabeth Kilanowski voting opposed.

### **Staff Updates**

There were no additional staff updates.

Dan Stahl asked the MAC about scheduling a June meeting and the group agreed to not hold the meeting, rather be on stand-by in case a meeting was necessary to be called. Otherwise the MAC will reconvene again in September.

### **Dockside Feedback**

Ian Puchlik reported that the customers at Blaine Harbor are very happy. The feedback he's received from the customers in Blaine is that the Vancouver Boat Show booth could be more visible and the Port should have give-away items to entice customers; the men's restrooms smell much better after the installation of auto-flushing urinals; and while Blaine customers are happy about the new dock boxes, the Port should consider different dock power outlet configurations that are easier to plug in to. Lastly, the customers at Blaine Harbor miss the hanging baskets and want to know how much it saves the Port monetarily by not having the baskets in Blaine.

With no further business the MAC adjourned their meeting at 8:56 PM.