

PORT OF BELLINGHAM

MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2017
HARBOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Jerry Writer
Gene Knutson
Brian Pemberton
Dave King
Paul Burill
Peter Border
Bill Douglas
Ian Puchlik
Jim Kyle

Committee Members Absent:

Port Representatives Present:

Kyle Randolph
Andy Peterson
Tamara Sobjack
Alan Birdsall
Pam Taft

Committee Members Excused:

Byron Richards

Visitors/Guests:

Rob Fix
Dan Robbins
Greg McHenry

Roll Call

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

Minutes

Jerry Writer made a motion to accept the March 14, 2017 minutes as written, which was seconded by Jim Kyle and passed unanimously by the MAC.

Public Comment

No public comment was provided

Dockside Feedback

Peter Border asked if the MAC would be provided any topics to discuss in the near future. He felt that being provided with topics to discuss would help the MAC stay more engaged with Port affairs. Alan Birdsall promised that topics would be forthcoming. Brian Pemberton commented

that MAC topics often come in waves, and while there are times when the MAC is active and very busy, sometimes there are periods where topics are minor and require little discussion.

Dave King asked about the road condition in the south-bound lane of Coho Way near the Seaview parking lot. The ground has settled in that area and there is a noticeable dip in the road. Kyle commented that he had recently noticed it as well and promised to bring it to the attention of Port engineers to see what sort of fix may be required.

Update to the Port's Recreation and Open Space Plan

Greg McHenry, the Port's Planning Analyst, gave a presentation updating the MAC on the Port's Recreation and Open Space Plan. This plan depicts the Port's 6-year plan to improve open space facilities. Greg provided the MAC with a website link to the Port's online survey and encouraged everyone to participate in the survey to assist the Port prioritizing projects based on public need. Andy stated he would be emailing marina customers the link to the survey and ask for their participation.

Garbage Skimmer Discussion (Cont.)

As a continuation of the March MAC discussion on harbor trash skimmers, Kyle provided a video depicting a second type of trash skimmer that is currently on the market. After showing the video Kyle gave a recap of the skimmer based on a conversation he had with the Harbormaster at Casey Marina in Newport, Rhode Island. The MAC and Port staff felt that the staff costs required to maintain the skimmer outweighed any benefit the skimmer provided. Due to the low volume of trash that builds in both harbors it was felt that Port staff could do a better job of manually removing the trash if provided with the proper amount of training and focus.

Brian and Dave stated that they too would take this message back to their staff as they felt that it was the responsibility of all Port users to assist in the ongoing cleanup of the harbors. Ian suggested that the statement to the Port Commission should be to pass on these products for now and instead utilize Port staff and community involvement to reduce trash buildup.

Staff Updates

Kyle gave a brief update on the Gate 3 power upgrades, detailing the work done so far and what can be expected in the future. Kyle also commented that although the Gate 9 restroom remodel had been delayed, it was still expected to be completed by the end of June. Lastly, Kyle gave an update on the Squalicum hiring process which involved the hiring of two seasonal dock attendants this summer. Jim commented that it would be great to stagger the hiring of the attendants so that one is available to assist during Seafeast. Kyle finished by stating that a replacement MSR had been hired and Squalicum should be fully staffed by May 1st.

Alan spoke about a meeting he attended with the City of Blaine, explaining the role of the Port and how it could assist the city. Alan informed the City of Blaine that they have an open ex-officio position on the MAC and hoped they would consider participating.

With no further business the April 11, 2017 MAC meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.