

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM
MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017
HARBOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Brian Pemberton
Paul Burrill
Ian Puchlik
Jim Kyle
Byron Richards
Dave King
Bill Douglas
Gene Knutson
Peter Border
Charlie Hawkins

Port Representatives Present:

Alan Birdsall
Pam Taft
Andy Peterson
Kyle Randolph

Committee Members Absent:

Committee Members Excused:

Jerry Writer

Visitors/Guests:

Loren Kapp
Linda Thompson
Ross Tennant
Robert Brooks

Bellingham Cold Storage Tour

Prior to the start of the MAC meeting, Doug Thomas of Bellingham Cold Storage gave a presentation on the history of BCS and led the MAC on a tour of the facility. This presentation and tour provided the MAC with a unique insight into the complex processes involved in the cold storage industry and the positive impact BCS has on Whatcom County.

Roll Call

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

Minutes

Peter Border made a motion to accept the May 9, 2017 and September 12, 2017 minutes as written, which was seconded by Ian Puchlik. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

With four MAC applicants present in the audience, each were introduced to the MAC. These applicants were Linda Thompson, Robert Brooks, Loren Kapp and Ross Tennant. Lynda Thompson stated she appreciated the committee and hoped to become a member.

Dockside Feedback

Byron Richards spoke about the process of upgrading the electrical infrastructure for the multiparty boathouse he represents and the impact the new GFP code requirement has had on the permit process. He stated that the circuit breakers installed in another boathouse were tripping when a customer plugged a Port pumpout cart into them. Kyle stated that he had recently spoken to an electrician who commented that the AFCI circuit breakers installed in that boathouse, which are designed to trip when they sense arcing, will trip any time an electric motor with traditional brushes draws current from them. A better option for ground fault protection would be traditional GFCI or ELCI breakers which do not conflict with electric motor technology.

Later in the meeting Ian asked about whether the Port had made a decision to provide free Wi-Fi. Alan explained that research had been done on the viability of a localized “hot spot” that customers could visit at both harbors to obtain access to Wi-Fi. Although the costs to provide free Wi-Fi covering the entirety of both harbors was cost prohibitive, providing this hot spot could be implemented with only a small investment. The MAC felt this hot spot would be a benefit to boaters and had no objections to its implementation.

MAC Membership Drive

Alan stated that he had received nine applications for the open MAC positions covering a variety of boater user groups. Alan stated that Port Staff would meet with the MAC chair prior to the November MAC meeting to develop recommendations with a possible vote from the MAC in November. Alan also confirmed term dates with the remaining MAC members to get an accurate number of vacancies in 2018.

Harbor Rules & Regulations Update

Kyle provided the MAC with copies of the current Rules & Regulations and explained the majority of the changes Port staff would like to have approved at the January 2, 2018 commission meeting. A discussion ensued on several topics including life jacket and dinghy policies. At the end of the discussion Dave King made a motion to adopt the regulation changes as presented, which was seconded by Gene Knutson. The motion was approved unanimously.

Staff Updates

Kyle mentioned to the MAC that gate codes would be changing at both facilities on November 1st.

With no further business the October 10, 2017 MAC meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.