

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM
MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2018
HARBOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Gene Knutson
Paul Burrill
Dave King
Jon Alexander
Robert Brooks
Bill Douglas

Linda Thomson
Loren Kapp
Ross Tennant
Peter Border
Julie Winkler
Dick Cathell

Committee Members Absent:

Committee Members Excused:

Byron Richards
Jim Kyle
Brian Pemberton
Charlie Hawkins
Ian Puchlik

Visitors/Guests:

Brian Gouran

Port Representatives present

Andy Peterson
Alan Birdsall
Kyle Randolph

Roll Call

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

Group Photo

The meeting began with the MAC and Port staff taking a photo wearing their life jackets in support of the “wear your life jacket to work day” program happening on May 18.

Minutes

Paul motioned to approve the March minutes, which was seconded by Dick and approved unanimously by the MAC

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

ASB Update

Alan began the conversation by giving a brief history of the Whatcom Waterway Cleanup, which first began in 1996 and continues through present day. During this project it was originally determined that demand for marina slips supported turning the ASB lagoon into a marina facility. Around 2007 regulatory changes relating to the disposal of contaminated materials

substantially increased project costs, which in turn made a new marina project a more complex and costly process.

Brian Gouran, Environmental Director for the Port of Bellingham, followed Alan's presentation with an explanation of the scope of the Whatcom Waterway Cleanup Phase 1. This included dredging and capping portions of the Whatcom Waterway, which made the waterway cleaner for native plant and animal species as well as increased the depth in the shipping channel. Brian then explained the design, permitting and construction of Phase 2 of the Whatcom Waterway Cleanup which will happen over the coming years. Phase 2 includes a continuation of the cleanup in the Whatcom Waterway as well as removal of contaminated sludges in the ASB. Options are being developed for the use of the ASB, which will be incorporated into the scope of the Phase 2 cleanup. Port staff will continue developing land use options through 2018, with Commission decision anticipated in late 2018 or early 2019. The process will include opportunities for public input.

Dockside Feedback

Dick was interested in the justification of the current number of Port commissioners. He wondered if MAC had an interest in discussing this topic in a future MAC meeting. Following a short discussion, Paul asked Alan if a statement could be provided from the Commission or Executive Director on their opinion on the subject. Alan said he would see if such a statement was possible. Peter followed this conversation by asking for the regulations that create and define Port Commissioners, which Alan said he would provide at a future MAC meeting.

Dave commented that the wifi system appeared to be getting better. Julie indicated there were still issues with it. Kyle promised to reach out to the wifi provider to see if there was a way to address Julie's concerns.

Dave also asked if the Hoop-It-Up basketball tournament was happening on the 4th of July again. Kyle thought that it was. Dave felt that it was inappropriate to hold this event on the busiest day of the year as it impacted the parking for paying customers.

Loren asked about the possibility of putting in a gate at Gate 5. He requested that it be included with the access control systems the harbor is considering for the 2019 budget season. Alan agreed to include it as an option for the project.

Marina Security

Alan explained the Port's research relating to electronic access systems for the marinas. Alan hopes to find a system that not only makes marina security better, but also increases operational efficiencies to reduce overhead and improve process. He anticipates costs will be developed in time for the 2019 budget process.

Squalicum Storage Yard

Alan gave an update on the new Squalicum storage yard, which will be built in 2018 to allow commercial fishing gear in the existing storage yard to be relocated. A new multi-purpose building is scheduled to be built on the location of the existing storage yard. Paul asked if policies will be developed to prevent equipment from being stored in parking lots. Alan indicated that this has been discussed and will be considered while the project is developed. When asked by Loren what the project's timeline will be, Alan indicated that he hoped the

project will be wrapped up by February of 2019, which should allow users sufficient time to relocate their gear without unduly burdening them.

Staff Updates

Andy mentioned that the Power Squadron is having a Sea Skills Boating Festival on May 12, 2018 from 10:00am – 5:00pm in Blaine Harbor. He said it was going to be a great event and invited the MAC to attend. Paul commented that these types of events are great for the boating community and could possibly save lives. Andy also reminded the MAC that Blaine Harbor has a food truck, which serves great food and is a welcome asset to the harbor. Lastly, Andy gave a status update on two projects: a new weblocker being built in Blaine to allow an aging weblocker to be removed, which in turn will allow future expansion for businesses currently located on the Blaine Industrial Area, and a lighting project that will include LED lighting that runs on 25% of the power existing lamps use.

Kyle mentioned that food trucks and a new coffee stand will be located at Squalicum Harbor in 2018. He also mentioned that marine radio channel 16 had been compromised by an open mic from a boater's radio, and that the issue had been reported to the FCC.

Alan reminded the MAC about the “wear your life jacket to work day” and encouraged the MAC's participation.

Kyle asked if there would be a June MAC meeting. A brief discussion ensued. Julie motioned that the June meeting be cancelled, which was seconded by Dick and passed unanimously.

With no further business the May 8, 2018 MAC meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.