

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM
MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018
HARBOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Gene Knutson
Paul Burrill
Ian Puchlik
Dick Cathell
Byron Richards
Jon Alexander

Charlie Hawkins
Ross Tennant
Julie Winkler
Linda Thomson
Loren Kapp

Committee Members Absent:

Committee Members Excused:

Dave King
Brian Pemberton
William Douglas
Robert Brooks
Peter Border
Jim Kyle

Visitors/Guests:

Rob Fix
Brian Gouran
Ken Bell

Port Representatives present

Alan Birdsall
Pam Taft
Andy Peterson
Kyle Randolph

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

Minutes

Paul Burrill made a motion to accept the December 12, 2017 minutes as written. Ross Tennant seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by the MAC.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Waterfront Subarea Plan Amendment Update

Brian Gouran, the Port's Director of Environmental Programs, gave an update to the group on the progress being made on the waterfront at the former Georgia Pacific site. He explained that currently two design alternatives are being considered on the layout of parks and roads through the interior of the downtown waterfront and the Port is soliciting feedback on these two designs. He went on to mention the Port is also hosting an Open House on January 17, from 3pm-6pm to solicit more input from the community. Brian invited the group to attend the Open House, saying that there will be more dialed-in schematics of the road and park layout alternatives at that

time. At the end of the presentation, Brian stated that the feedback received from the community will help Port Staff decide which design alternative to recommend to the Port Commission at their February 6, 2018 meeting. (Editorial comment: Commission consideration on the alternatives has been changed to the February 20, 2018 meeting)

Dockside Feedback

Ian Puchlik went over a list of improvement projects at Blaine Harbor that were implemented by Port Staff. He also requested that the Port develop a policy to put aesthetic standards on boathouses and condition of vessels. Ian said that generally the customers are very happy with Blaine Harbor and the staff.

Committee Chair Paul Burrill suggested to the group that when ideas are brought forward, the committee could make a recommendation whether or not the MAC was interested in pursuing the topic and add it future meeting agendas for further discussion.

Charlie Hawkins mentioned recent efforts the City of Blaine had made to improve water quality and suggested that the Port consider using dye tablets on all boats within the harbors to identify possible waste contamination. A brief discussion ensued, with Alan giving an overview of efforts made by the Port relating to water quality. The MAC requested that staff provide an update at a subsequent meeting covering this topic.

Ross Tennant brought up an issue he is having with maintaining a consistent Wi-Fi signal in the harbor. He said that there are too many conflicting signals, making it difficult to broadcast their Wi-Fi signal to their boats. Alan said that he'll check with the Port's IT Dept. to see if there is an explanation for this and will report his findings at the next meeting.

Staff Updates

Kyle talked about the derelict/abandoned dinghy removal that will be happening in the next week. He mentioned that there are 53 dinghies that will be removed from the dinghy racks located throughout the harbor which will free up space for dinghies that are actively being used. It was also mentioned that only two support bars can be used on the rack by one person.

Alan informed the group on the Port Commission established the Commission Officers as follows: President, Ken Bell; Vice-President, Bobby Briscoe; and Secretary, Michael Shepard. The Commission kept the meetings on the first and third Tuesdays and changed the start time to 4:30PM. The Commission will have two Public Comment opportunities at each Commission meeting: 4:30PM and 5:30PM.

Pam mentioned two upcoming projects that will be brought to MAC at a later date: participating in the National Safe Boating Campaign and looking into the requirements to establish Blaine and Squalicum Harbors as Ports of Entry.

With no further business the January 9, 2018 MAC meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.