



Date: October 23, 2006
To: Members of the Marine Advisory Commission
From: Mark A. Sandoval, Manager of Marinas and Beaches
Subject: MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2006
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION (MAC)

Commissioners Present

Bradley Whyte, Chair
Richard Turrentine
Randy Crawford
Harry Hutton
Scott Schaidle
Darlene Ann Gidley

Marine Bureau Personnel

Mark Sandoval, Manager
Beverly Glavas, Special Projects Officer
Vivian Crook, Secretary

City Staff

Phil Hester, Director, Parks/Rec./Marine
Philip Lopez, Acting Supt. Marine Maint.
David Akin, MPO, Marine Patrol Division
Mark Boone, Chief, Marine Safety, LBFD
Julie Maleki, Analyst, City Council, 3rd Dist.

Commissioners Absent

Holly Carpenter, Vice Chair
Mike Reed
Peter Hogenson

Guests

Don Cobleigh, LBMBOA
Carla Collado, Grunion Gazette
Joe Nicotera, LBMBOA
Ron Johnsen, boatowner
Bud Johnson, DBW Commissioner
Joe Segura, Press Telegram

Chairman Whyte convened the meeting at 2:30 p.m., at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

ROLL CALL

Mark Sandoval called the roll of commissioners and introduced Marine Bureau personnel and City staff.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The September 14, 2006, MAC minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

OLD BUSINESS

- Mark Sandoval reviewed the continuation of the appeal of Mr. Ron Johnsen's slip permit cancellation. He briefly reviewed that Mr. Johnsen's permit had been cancelled for unseaworthiness, with peripheral problems. He reviewed the actions by the MAC at last month's meeting where the Commission recommended Mr. Johnsen be given a temporary slip in another basin until the end of October, during which time Mr. Johnsen would be required to provide verification of the seaworthiness of his vessel, updated vessel insurance, proof that he has other living arrangements, and slip payment for September and October. Mark Sandoval said that he had contacted Mr. Johnsen regarding the above items. He also reported that as of yesterday the boat was still not in the marina, slip fees had not been paid for September or October, nor had Mr. Johnsen met any of the other conditions as imposed by the MAC. Mr. Sandoval's recommendation was that the MAC uphold the cancellation of Mr. Johnsen's slip permit.

Mark Sandoval said that he believed that the MAC went a great distance last month to try and assist Mr. Johnsen, and that Mr. Johnsen had met none of the requirements. Mr. Sandoval said that he was surprised that Mr. Johnsen had not come in to pay his slip fees for September and October, in spite of the fact he was contacted and reminded to do so.

Commissioner Gidley clarified that, once Mr. Johnsen's boat was seaworthy, he could apply for a temporary assignment and get on the waiting list for a permanent slip. Mr. Sandoval agreed that Mr. Johnsen could get a temporary slip assignment if there were one available and apply to the waiting list for a permanent slip.

Mr. Johnsen said that his boat is still in the shipyard, and that he is having thousands of dollars of repairs done to the vessel. He said that he wanted Mark Sandoval to bill his home address, that his ex-wife is required by the court to pay all his bills. He exclaimed that his boat would not leave the shipyard until it meets Coast Guard approval. He then requested more time to get his boat fixed.

Mark Sandoval stated that Mr. Johnsen is no longer in the billing system, because his slip was cancelled. He said that Mr. Johnsen never asked him to bill his home address, and that if he had he would have explained to him that he was required to come in to the office to pay the slip fees up-front and be temporarily assigned to another slip.

Commissioner Schaidle stated that at last month's meeting Mr. Johnsen agreed to go the Marine Bureau office the next day and pay for a temporary slip. Commissioner Crawford said that the MAC was more than lenient with their requests, that Mr. Johnsen had not performed his due diligence, and that he still owes slip fees.

Chairman Whyte agreed that the MAC had been very lenient, and that Mr. Johnsen has not met the requirements as set by the Commission.

It was moved by Commissioner Schaidle and seconded by Commissioner Crawford that the MAC uphold the cancellation of Mr. Johnsen's slip permit by the Marine Bureau. The motion passed unanimously.

- Mark Sandoval reported that he and Chairman Whyte attended a study session for the Planning Commission for the Lennar development project. He said that more than one of the Planning Commission commissioners essentially said that they were very underwhelmed and not impressed with the proposed development. He said that it was obvious to him that the Planning Commission wanted Lennar to go back to the drawing board and bring something back that would "wow" them. There was discussion from the audience about traffic and congestion.

Mark Sandoval added that he and Dennis Eschen met with representatives of the Lennar Group and again reiterated to them the MAC's concerns, summarizing that the MAC would not be supportive of anything that would have a negative impact on traffic or parking for marina tenants.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mark Sandoval discussed the Temporary Assignment (TA) Program. He said that this Commission has looked at two or three variations of this program. He explained the program as it exists today, which is three, three-month intervals and then six months out of the marina before the boatowner can come back into the system. He explained that as the Bureau gets closer to the start of the ABM rebuild, staff is closely counting slips to ensure that there are sufficient empty slips to accommodate the rebuild. The TA Program generates over \$950,000 a year. He explained that a new variation of the TA Program has been developed. The new program is month-to-month, prepaid, and with no limit on how long a boatowner can remain in the program as long as there are slips available. He did say that the Bureau is having a lot of problems with illegal liveaboards on TAs. As a result, a new rule will indicate that the only time a boater can stay overnight aboard their vessel is Friday and/or Saturday night. This schedule will assist Marine Patrol with enforcement of illegal liveaboard activity. He said that he would like to implement this new one-month TA program immediately.

Commissioner Schaidle asked what concessions would be made for boaters who have days off other than Friday and Saturday. Mark Sandoval replied that most people with a residence visit their boats on weekends. Also, it would make it too difficult for Marine Patrol to monitor the "days off" of various boaters.

It was moved by Commissioner Crawford and seconded by Commissioner Hutton that the MAC endorse the Marine Bureau's change to the TA program to begin renting slips on a month-to-month basis, with Friday and Saturday as the only nights allowed for the permit holder to stay aboard. The motion passed unanimously.

BUREAU MANAGER'S REPORT

Marina Operations Report

Mark Sandoval gave the report for the Marine Bureau Major Accomplishments, the Monthly Fund Budget Report for ABM/LBSM/RBH, the Total Vessels In and Out by Marina, and the Slip Status Report for the month of September.

- Mark Sandoval reported that the Operations Committee will review ways of speeding up the procedure for filling slips from the Waiting List.
- Mark Sandoval remarked that he had emailed a summary report of non-marina related items to the MAC commissioners for informational purposes.
- Mark Sandoval reported on the guest slip program in LBSM. He said that he has identified 12 slips in various sizes that would be designated for use by guests on the weekends. For security purposes, the guest slips will all be located on gangway GG. This will be a temporary program and will be implemented once the boat show is over.

Maintenance Operations Report

Phil Lopez gave the Marine Maintenance status report for the month of September.

- Phil Lopez asked for input from the MAC on the new format for the finance portion of the Marine Maintenance report. He asked the MAC to let him know if they wanted any changes to the format.

Commissioner Hutton said that the form was fine as it was.

- Phil Lopez reported that Marine Maintenance performed die testing on the restrooms, and pump-outs in ABM in an attempt to find the cause of the water contamination. The pumpout at Basin 6 South came up as a problem. It had been shut down for repairs and it is believed that a boater turned it on and used it. Since that time, the pump and bad pipe have been replaced and the pumpout is up and running again. Marine Maintenance has been working with the Health and Water Departments, testing the area trying to figure out where the contamination is coming from.

Mark Sandoval remarked that this issue is being addressed at very high levels. He said that he and Phil Lopez attended an emergency meeting set by the Health Department last Friday, and that Public Works and Water Department personnel were in attendance. A report will be going to the City Manager tomorrow, summarizing the activity of the meeting. He said that Lifeguards will be diving in a couple of areas of ABM, checking on pipes. The latest report today from the Health Department shows that bacteria counts are declining; however, the Colorado Lagoon is still above the guidelines and cannot be opened. He reported that the Bureau is in the process of replacing all four of the pumpouts in ABM. He said that State monies will be used to purchase and install more powerful pumpouts within the next eight weeks.

He stated that the cost of installing one or possibly two pumpouts on the Davies Launch Ramp side, and the addition of a third pumpout at the ABM Harbor Master Dock are being evaluated. He reported that two private pumpouts located at Marina Pacifica were tested by the Health Department and found to have leaks. These pumpouts were shut down.

Phil Lopez added that the Department is looking at installing a porta-potty dump station at the Davies Launch Ramp.

- Commissioner Crawford asked about problems with the rest room at A-16. He said that the sidewalk outside the rest room is always wet.

Phil Lopez said that repairs have been done, however there is still a leak in the women's shower.

Mark Sandoval said that the cost to fix the problem will have to be determined. He said he wouldn't want to throw good money after bad if the rest room is going to be replaced during the rebuild. He said that once they find the cause of the problem and determine the cost, and if it makes sense to spend the money prior to the rebuild they will do it, but he doesn't want to piece meal the job. He said the entire marina will have to be re-plumbed during the rebuild.

- Phil Lopez explained how the Maintenance Division handles the processing of work orders. He explained that the work orders are numbered and that boatowners can follow-up on the work orders by calling the Marine Maintenance office. He stated that there are stickers on the dock phones that have the Maintenance Division's phone number on them, and that boaters can call that number for assistance.

Don Cobleigh commented that, basically, the boaters have had a good response to their requests.

- Mark Sandoval reported that LBSM is two weeks away from having the electronic system on the gangway gates in place and activated so that the fobs will work.

Marine Safety Report

Chief Mark Boone gave the Marine Safety status report for the month of September.

- Construction on the new rescue boats has begun.
- The Office of Emergency Services has been looking at developing a swiftwater program statewide. Long Beach is one of the task forces that has just been picked up by the State. Training and equipment will be paid for by the State.
- Mark Boone reported on a boat fire at the west-end/downtown. He stated that the fire itself originated behind a built-in cabinet installed in front of the circuit breakers. There was a lot of smoke and fire, and the hatches had been carpeted over making it difficult to get water to the fire. The vessel sank, however everyone onboard was rescued and no one was injured. A post incident analysis on the fire has been done.

Commissioner Gidley asked if an article regarding boating safety could be put in the Marina Reader.

Mark Sandoval agreed.

- Don Cobleigh asked who was responsible for the maintenance of the fire hoses/boxes on the docks. He said that several of the boxes have been bumped by boaters trying to dock their vessels and that the boxes are leaning over.

Mark Boone responded that the Maintenance Division is responsible for maintenance of the fireboxes.

Marine Patrol Report

Marine Patrol Officer Akin reported on Marine Patrol activities for the month of September.

- Commissioner Crawford said that he has noticed Marine Patrol officers patrolling up and down the docks more than he can remember in the past, and was thankful for that.
- Officer Akin reported that Marine Patrol is still dealing with a chronic shortage of personnel. He said that two people are in the hiring process at this time and hopefully will be brought onboard in the fall.
- Last Monday during the day shift, two Marine Patrol officers detained a man for drinking in public in the LBSM. While the man was detained it was discovered that he was on the terrorist watch list. He was booked and charged with drinking in public, taken to jail and fingerprinted. Marine Patrol was informed that the Office of Counter Terrorism was able to obtain some interesting information from him.

Officer Akin pointed out that nothing is too small to call about, because you never know where something will lead.

- Mark Sandoval reported on an incident where a kite from a kite surfer hit a woman on the head. The woman is filing a claim against the City. He explained that the man was on the beach at the time that his kite hit the woman. The 3rd District Council office was wondering what, if anything could be done to prevent this type of accident in the future. Mark Sandoval recommended that this issue go to committee for review, with the involvement of Marine Safety and Marine Patrol. Mark Sandoval said that it might be worthwhile for the commissioners to go down to the beach and personally view the activity.

Chairman Whyte stated the Operations Committee would review this issue.

Mark Boone remarked that that Lifeguards have counted up to 125 kite surfers on the water at any given time.

Rules and Regulations Committee

The Rules and Regulations Committee meets monthly. The committee reviewed the following:

- Mark Sandoval talked about the rule/recommendation on how wide slips and end-ties are priced. He explained that right now there is inequity in the pricing system, in that the wide slips in LBSM are much more expensive than the end-ties.

He explained that the Rules and Regulations Committee meets once a month and was developed to review marina rules and regulations. The committee is made up of MAC members, boatowners, Marine Bureau staff, and Boatowner's Association members. Issues are discussed in committee and anything that the committee feels should be changed goes forward to the Operations Committee and then before the entire MAC for review. He explained that, as Manager, he could implement this item without input from the MAC; the MAC is not a policy setting commission, it is an advisory commission - a sounding board. He said that if the MAC wanted to vote on this issue and get it on record, the item would have to be placed on the MAC agenda. It was decided it would be placed on next month's MAC agenda.

Executive MAC

- All items covered.

Operations Committee

- All items covered.

Facilities Committee

- Commissioner Schaidle said that there has been no change in the beach erosion, sandbag groin project.
- Commissioner Schaidle reported that the Belmont Pool ADA project is going through the Planning and Building Department for approval. Also, the open pool idea was discussed. Mark Sandoval said that there is no money for anything right now; however, this item would be included in the beach development study.

Phil Hester gave an update on the Belmont Plaza Pool issue. He explained that ADA improvements are being started and said that they are going to look again at a seismic study that was done some years ago. A meeting is being planned with the City Manager and City Council to brief them on this issue and look at what the options might be. The seismic issue could cost anywhere from \$7 million on up. Some of the options being looked at are; take the building down and start all over, take the roof off and keep the pool and use it as an outdoor pool, or take the roof off and put up some sort of tent type structure.

- Mark Sandoval said that he had a couple of discussions with LBSM marina tenants regarding the flow of water between the slips. He reported that as the marina is built and completed, those initial pockets of problems have gone away. He said that the correct course of action is to wait until the marina rebuild is complete to see where the problem areas are.
- The Planning and Building Department has given a negative declaration on the Pier Mooring Project and the Bureau is now moving on for a Coastal Permit.
- Mark Sandoval mentioned that the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine was in Seattle, Washington last week to receive the Gold Medal Award for the best parks and recreation department in the country for cities 250,000 or greater in population.

Commissioner Crawford commented that the award is well deserved.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. The next meeting is set for November 16, 2006, at 2:30 p.m. at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

cc: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
City Clerk