Date: October 10, 2014
To: Marine Advisory Commission
From: Elvira Hallinan, Manager, Marina Bureau
Subject: MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 9, 2014 MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION (MAC)

Commissioners Present
Rick DuRee, Chair
David Thornburg, Vice Chair
Darlene Gidley
Eric Peterson
Scott Schaidle
Mike Schachter
Ted Kuhn
Tom Mayes
Mark Turpin

Marine Bureau Personnel
Elvira Hallinan, Manager, Marine Bureau
Vivian Crook, Secretary

City Staff
Randy Foster, Chief, Marine Safety/Lifeguards/LBFD
Hurley Owens, Supt., Marine Maint.
Don Easterby, Acting Super., Beach Maint.
Mike Lewis, LBPD Lt.
Diana Hohman, LBPD Sgt., Marine Patrol Detail
Jody Schlobohm, Sgt. Marine Patrol Detail
Eric Lopez, Tidelands CIP Officer, City Manager Ofs.

Commissioners Absent

Guests
Fred Khammar, Alfredo’s Beach Club
Alfredo Fernandez, LBMBOA
Bob Vatz, LBMBOA
Bob Hubbard
Einar Lorentsen
Kim Smith
Jim and Debbie Czarnecki
Larry Goodhue

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

ROLL CALL
Elvira Hallinan called the roll of commissioners.
CONSENT CALENDAR

The September 11, 2014, MAC minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Alfredo Fernandez spoke regarding the shutting down of the Department of Water and Power’s (DWP) through cooling system and its effect on the water quality in ABM. He said he spoke with Tom Modica, City Manager’s office, who said that the closing of the plant is still far off (2020), and that it is not a concern at this time. Alfredo asked him about the closing of the Haines Plant and Mr. Modica responded that they are not looking into the closing of the Haines Plant. Alfredo explained that the Haines plant is the plant that creates most of the suction. He said he went online and found the project schedule which shows that four of the eight generators are already built and running. He said that by the time they are all up and running 95 percent of the suction will be gone. He said that he would copy Elvira Hallinan on his email response to Mr. Modica.

Elvira Hallinan said that she has not met with Mr. Modica as yet, but that she was considering having Moffatt and Nichol come to one of the MAC meetings and give an update. She said that she spoke with Moffatt and Nichol last week and believes they are aware that “five years from now” is just around the corner. She said that she would put this item on her priority list.

OLD BUSINESS

- Elvira Hallinan spoke regarding the ABM Rebuild and said that the Southern California Edison (SCE) and utilities portion of the project is on track. The next phase will impact the Farmer’s Market area, however it should be able to function as it always has. This project will only impact the market on two Sundays, beginning October 26. She also spoke about vessel movement in Basin 2 and said that staff is still adjusting the movement of some vessels. Demolition is scheduled to begin October 20 and will continue until the end of October.

- Elvira Hallinan reported that the City has issued an RFP for a feasibility study to see if it can sell $40 million in bonds and to investigate the marina pricing structure to make sure that we do not price ourselves out of the market, given that the City might have to do incremental slip increases throughout the life of some of these bonds. She said that yesterday she was informed by Financial Management that the underwriters preliminary recommendation was that they believe the City can now bond for $90 million and that they would prefer that the City pay off the DBW loans ($30 million), because in the long haul the City will save money and because whomever holds the bonds will have control of all the debt. Also, she said, the City is not sure that DBW will subordinate their loans. She commented that last year DBW had told PRM that they would not loan the City any money because they had already loaned the City $30 million. She said that she and the Director received a call two weeks ago from DBW regarding loan funding and DBW told them that they would be willing to loan the City $16.9 million at 4.5 per cent.
Apparently, a lot of the smaller cities have defaulted on their loans and now DBW has $9 million from 2010 that they need to loan out, or it will expire and go back into their General Fund. DBW has $7.9 million for this fiscal year 2014. Apparently no one in California has asked for a loan to rebuild a marina. She said that the City/Marine Bureau will apply for the money, because if the bonds do not come through at the right time, the loan from DBW is almost 95 percent guaranteed and there are no penalties for pre-payment. She said she will know on November 5th if the City has been approved. This way, she explained, if for any reason the bonds do not come through by June 2015, she can start drawing down on the DBW loan and keep moving ahead with the Basin 2 Rebuild. This would save money in the long haul with less deployments, because each mobilization of the dredging equipment costs $212,000, and if she can eliminate one or two demobilizations it will help.

- Elvira Hallinan spoke regarding the ABM Fuel Dock and reported that they are still working on the permits. Elvira is still working with the Permitting Division on the public restroom ADA requirement. She also stated that due to some of the delays and after looking at the site, Public Works is asking for an additional $396,000 to finish the Fuel Dock (for remediation/clean-up). She said that she has $156,000 left over from the LBSM Fuel Dock Project that she will transfer to this, but she is still short approximately $240,000, which will have to come out of this year's fund balance. She said that she tried to get money from Tidelands so that she would not have to tap into the Marina Fund again, however she was denied. Chairman DuRee stated that there used to be something in the ADA code that said that if there was an unreasonable financial burden on the agency, and that if the facility that was being used was not necessarily being used all the time by the public, then you could apply for an exemption. He said this was done with the Long Beach Arena for the ADA requirements for the upper tier and was successful. Elvira said that she would look into this.

- Elvira Hallinan reminded the Commission that the MAC 2013 Annual Report, except for the Operations Committee, still needs input from the sub-committees and asked that the sub-committee chairman turn in the portion of their report to her secretary to be included in a draft for review by the MAC.

- Eric Lopez addressed the MAC regarding the LBSM Integrated Parking Lot Project and said that he appreciated the MAC’s input from their last meeting. He said he spoke with the Traffic Engineer and shared all the concerns received from the Commission and the public. He said the Traffic Engineer has accepted a recommendation that he believes will work for everyone. Tony Rezendez said that they heard loud and clear that parking stalls could not be lost. Essentially, the Traffic Engineer said that the boatowners side will stay as it is and the striping plan will be adjusted. They have to deal with some of the Coastal Commission requirements; i.e., clean the water before it goes into the ocean. They have been able to install some greenbelts (Isle Infiltration Pods) within the area to channel the water in these areas before it goes into the ocean. They will go through the process to have the gates formally permitted through the Coastal Commission. He said the concerns about public safety and emergency access are addressed in this plan. He said that cutting into the park by two feet, removing all the old stamped concrete and expanding the lot will increase the cost for this project. He will keep the MAC posted as progress moves forward. The Traffic Engineering has signed off and now it goes to the Coastal Commission for approval.
NEW BUSINESS

- Commissioner Schaidle talked about creating a beach issues task group of stakeholders to look at how improvements could be made to the beaches. He said he’d like to see people on the committee who would actually like to do good and not just complain. Chairman DuRee asked Commissioner Schaidle to take the lead on his item and come back next month with a list of individuals he thinks could serve on a small focus group, and asked the Commissioners to come back with organizations, departments, etc., they believe should be part of the overall invitees to meet with the focus group. He said this item will need to be run by the Director because it will require staff assistance.

Fred Khammar addressed the MAC. Fred runs Alfredo’s Beach Club and has had his business on the beach for the past 27 years. He said that with the MP beach patrol leaving the beach area, he has seen a dramatic increase in vagrancy and vandalism over the past two years. A lot of money is being spent on the beaches that he feels could be spent more wisely and efficiently. He said that he believes a focus group comprised of stakeholders and locals could give some very good input.

MARINE BUREAU MANAGER’S REPORT

Marina Operations Report

- Elvira Hallinan, Manager, gave the slip status report for the month of September.

Commissioner Schachter asked how the Marine Bureau addresses the issue of unseaworthy vessels in the marinas. Elvira Hallinan said that the Rules and Regulations state that all vessels are required to be seaworthy at all times. She said that staff is inspecting these vessels and the slip area and are red-tagging problems on the dock. Some of the boatowners are put on contract and given an amount of time to make their vessels seaworthy. Chairman DuRee commented that if someone has a reason to believe that something is not up to par, they should call the agency responsible and they will send out someone to inspect and issue a correction notice giving them an amount of time to fix the problem or they will end up being red-tagged. Commissioner Schachter said that some of these neglected vessels create a huge electrolysis problem for the other boaters.

Beach Maintenance Operations

Don Easterby, Acting Supervisor, Beach Maintenance, gave the Beach Maintenance status report for the month of September.

- Don Easterby reported that September was a very busy month. The Beach Maintenance crew has been working around the clock trying to maintain the beach, what with the high tides, high surf, swells and storms. He said that most of his staff hours have been dedicated to moving sand onto the East Beach. They are hoping to put 60 feet of beach sand back into the impact zone at 62nd Place and 68th Place, which is the narrowest part of the beach.
Commissioner Schaidle asked if Beach Maintenance will be receiving any funding to pay for the cleanup from the Port fire. Don Easterby said that burnt wood is everywhere on the beach and needs to be cleaned up. Chairman DuRee said that the wood has creosote and suggested that he might want to get the Health Department involved and look into the Super Fund for assistance.

Maintenance Operations Report

Hurley Owens, Superintendent, Marine Maintenance, gave the Marine Maintenance status report for the month of September.

- Hurley Owens said that his staff assisted Don Easterby’s Beach Maintenance crew with the storm issues last month.
- Hurley Owens said that over the past couple months he has increased his staff by two carpenters, one electrician, and five non-career personnel.
- Hurley Owens reported that with additional monies remaining at the end of this year, Marine Maintenance will be giving a “facelift” to the restrooms.

LBFD/Marine Safety Report

The Marine Safety/Lifeguard status report for the month of September was distributed to the MAC to review and file.

LBPD/Marine Patrol Report

Diana Hohman, Sergeant, LBPD/Marine Patrol Detail, gave the Marine Patrol status report for September.

- Sergeant Hohman stated that she has received direction from her Commander for Marine Patrol to begin enforcement on the beach. The Marine Patrol Officers will be pro-active and will respond if flagged down, if the situation is too large they will call for back-up.

Executive MAC

- All items covered.

Operations Committee

- All items covered.
Facilities Committee

- No meeting held.

Finance Committee

- No meeting held

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- None

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- None

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next meeting is set for November 13, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. 6PM at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

cc: George Chapjian, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
    City Clerk