



Date: November 16, 2015
To: Marine Advisory Commission
From: Elvira Hallinan, Manager, Marina Bureau
Subject: MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2015
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION (MAC)

Commissioners Present

Rick DuRee, Chair
David Thornburg, Vice Chair
Eric Peterson
Mike Schachter
Peter Schnack
Jerry Avila
Ted Kuhn

Marine Bureau Personnel

Elvira Hallinan, Manager, Marine Bureau
Kurt Borsting, Marine Operations Superintendent
Vivian Crook, Secretary, Marine Bureau
Kimarie Vestre, Supervisor, Marine Bureau
Don Easterby, Superintendent, Bch.Maint./QWB Ops.
Cory Forrester, Superintendent, Marine Maint. Ops.

City Staff

Gonzalo Medina, Chief, Marine Safety/LBFD
Amy Bodeck, Director, Development Services

Commissioners Absent

Mark Turpin
Tom Mayes

Guests

Bob Hubbard
Alfredo Fernandez
Richard Rangel
Tony Maddio
Melinda Cotton
Chris Webb, Moffat & Nichol
Gordana Kajer
Elizabeth Lambe

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 10, 2015, MAC minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Melinda Cotton, Long Beach resident, stated that there are big trucks parked at 54th Place 24/7. She would like to see them ticketed, as there is no overnight parking allowed and kite surfing trucks are only allowed on the landing while doing business during the day.

Elvira Hallinan said that she will be going before the City Council in January regarding this issue. She said the issue of parking will be written into the document/permit. She will meet with Sergeant Hohman to discuss Ms. Cotton's concerns.

- Bob Vatz, boatowner, complained that there are empty slips on W-Dock and wanted to know why. Elvira Hallinan replied that the slips are being held open for the next phase of the rebuild. 200 boats will need to be moved during the next phase. She also explained that revenue loss is built into the bond process.

NEW BUSINESS

- Amy Bodeck, Director of Developmental Services, gave an update on the Haynes Generating Plant, the AES Plant, and their effect on water circulation in the Alamitos Bay Marina. She reported that these plants (once through cooling system) are being ordered by the State to shut down over a period of a number of years. There is concern about what this will do to the water quality in the Bay and the benefits that these pumps have on water circulation and marine life. Moffat and Nichol were contracted to review the situation. Their study found that the shutdown of these pumps will have an impact on the water quality in the Bay. She stated that the next step for the City will be to determine what to do with the information received and find a solution.

Chris Webb, Supervisory Coastal Scientist, gave the presentation on the study done by Moffat and Nichol. He stated that the study looked at what will happen if conditions change with regard to the pumping of the two power plants. The study looked at tidal flushing; i.e., how quickly the water flows back out after it flows into Alamitos Bay. He said that the longer it takes to flush out (beyond 7 days), typically the poorer the water quality. He reported that the power plants do affect the circulation and quality of the water in Alamitos Bay. He said that they had not been scoped to do a wet season study, but that Alamitos Bay water quality does get impacted during a storm, the question is, how fast can it recover.

Alfredo Fernandez said that the water quality, the bacterium, the trash, and the length of time it takes for trash to circulate and leave very much impacts Alamitos Bay not only during the summer season but also and especially during the rainy season. He stated that Alamitos Bay is used year round and the shutting down of the Haynes Plant has already affected the Bay.

Chris Webb stated that although the pumping done by the Haynes Plant is larger in magnitude, its effect on the upper end of Alamitos Bay is less. He said that to a greater extent, the upper end of Alamitos Bay is affected by the AES Plant.

Amy Bodeck said that City management will take the study into review and figure out what to do. As yet, the City has not selected a solution.

Alfredo Fernandez remarked that 90 percent of the pumping has stopped, and that with El Nino on the way Alamitos Bay will become a huge garbage pit.

A boatowner in the marina asked what will happen with the current marine life in Alamitos Bay when the pumps shut down. Will we lose more fish and marine life in these bays because of this new legislation? He stated the reality is there has been an increase in some marine life in the San Gabriel River, such as the Green Sea Turtles living in the outfalls. When the pumps are turned off will the sea turtles be displaced? Were these issues considered? Will we be throwing the baby out with the bath water? Are we making things worse rather than better? He is wondering if the State took these issues into consideration.

Chris Webb stated that these plants are unusual in that most of the other plants are on the beach, straight off the ocean; these plants are located inland.

A Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust representative stated that in one week the Senior Policy Director for Heal the Bay will be at Kettering Elementary the evening of November 19 to speak to this issue.

- Appeal by Richard Rangel for cancellation of his slip permit for LBSM Dock F Slip 3 for illegal liveaboard. Elvira Hallinan reported that she had received a call around mid-July regarding a possible illegal liveaboard situation on Dock F, Slip 3. Surveillance was done on that vessel and it was found that Mr. Rangel had stayed aboard sixteen nights. The Marina Rules and Regulations state that a permittee cannot stay aboard their vessel more than 12 nights in a calendar month.

Chairman DuRee asked Mr. Rangel if he did indeed liveaboard his vessel. Mr. Rangel responded that, yes, he did live aboard, but that he did not believe he did during those days logged. Elvira Hallinan responded that surveillance footage does show that he did indeed stay the night on Dock F, Slip 3, during that time period. He said that he did not believe that he did, but that maybe his friend did. Chairman DuRee said that the rules do not make a distinction on who spends the night. He said that Mr. Rangel was aware of the regulations because by his own admission he applied for a permit to have the opportunity to liveaboard and that before it was granted he moved onboard.

Mr. Rangel address the MAC and wanted to know why he had not received a call letting him know that he was being investigated for living aboard illegally. He said he should have received a courteous call.

Elvira Hallinan explained that the procedure is not to contact the person being investigated, as this would tip them off. She said that she had received more than one call, and that she has to take these calls seriously, because there are legal liveaboards in the marina who pay the additional fees. Also, there are rules as to how many liveaboards can be in one certain location.

Commissioner ~~Mayer~~ Kuhn asked Mr. Rangel when had he turned in his request to liveaboard. Mr. Rangel responded that he turned in his request in August. Elvira Hallinan said that she had received complaints in July, and that complaints are made after a pattern is established.

Commissioners Peterson, Schachter and Avila all abstained from voting on this item, which left the Commission without a quorum. The item was held over until the next Commission meeting, which will be in January as there will be no meeting held in December.

Mr. Rangel stated that he had already cancelled his slip and moved his boat out. He said he is now in another marina and the reason he got that slip now is because it was a liveaboard slip and they would not hold it for him. Elvira explained that he is now out of the marina and he would need to apply to the Waiting List and start over. He said that staff had advised him he needed to get on the Waiting List, and that he had already done so.

OLD BUSINESS

- Elvira Hallinan reported on the Alamos Bay Rebuild. She stated everything is moving along smoothly. Basin 2 is still on schedule. Move-in letters will be sent to permittees on Docks 13 and 14 in mid-December. Docks 11 and 12 should be completed in March 2016. Everyone with a 35-foot slip who was relocated out of ABM for the rebuild will move back into ABM in March. In March or April, Docks 26-29 will be the next group of docks to be vacated for the rebuild.

Elvira stated that guest slips will be available in LBSM in November. She explained that the reason she was holding them open was because she needed them for approximately 300 boats that were moved out of ABM in the last phase. As she has explained in the past, the loss of revenue has been built into the bond. She also explained that every time she has Manson Construction Company come out to dredge it costs \$250,000. She is working with Bellingham Marine (BMI) to try to minimize the number of deployments. This will hopefully move the rebuild along faster and allow her to have enough money in the end to renovate bathrooms. Right now, restroom renovations are not budgeted. She is hoping to have \$1 million saved in the next three years so that BMI can renovate two bathrooms. She stated that while there might be some pain for the boatowners now, in the long run it will be to their benefit.

- Elvira Hallinan distributed a TranSystems monthly report on ABM. This report gives specific information on what is being done on a monthly basis with regard to the ABM rebuild.
- A sample of the 2012 MAC Annual Report was distributed to the MAC for use by the Commissioners to build the 2013 Annual Report.

MARINE BUREAU MANAGER'S REPORT

Marine Bureau Report

- Elvira Hallinan stated that the City has established a citywide El Nino Storm Watch Task Force. Elvira, Cory Forrester and Don Easterby have been working with the Director of Disaster Management and Public Works, on a plan a to prepare for El Nino; i.e., berms on the beach, sandbags, and "Blackboard" (a reverse 911 software system). This will allow the Bureau to send mass alerts and to interface with boatowner's cell phones and landline numbers.
- Commissioner Peterson stated that with the last minor rains, LBSM was inundated with trash and debris. He asked if it would be possible to boom-off the west end of the entrance to LBSM to basically deflect the initial surge of debris. Elvira Hallinan said that she would contact Don Easterby with regard to this request.
- Kurt Borsting reported that earlier in the month he met with Don Easterby and a manufacturer's representative from where the boom system was purchased. He said that Don is working on purchasing additional boom material to catch debris further up and closer to the Los Angeles River where the Catalina boats leave. Don hopes to capture more of the trash before it gets near the marinas. Alfredo Fernandez asked if this procedure could be applied to Coyote Creek. Elvira Hallinan said that she would talk to Don regarding this.
- Kurt Borsting reported that the Bureau has launched a Facebook page, which can be found under, "City of Long Beach Marine Bureau." He said that the Bureau has had 7,000 "hits" so far. An email will be sent to boatowners with a direct link to the Marine Bureau website.
- Kurt Borsting stated that he and Cory Forrester met with the Tidelands CIP office regarding decking replacement around the LBSM office. This area is closed off to public access until the project is completed. Decking replacement should begin in February 2016.
- Kurt Borsting reported that Ecco Wireless is working to extend their coverage in the marinas; i.e., Basins 6 and 8.

Marine Maintenance

- Cory Forrester, Superintendent of Marine Maintenance, reported on the Trees in the Bay deployment, and said that Marine Maintenance, while using less staff, are ahead of schedule by about three weeks.
- Cory Forrester reported that Marine Maintenance has finally hired a Custodial Supervisor. He said the new supervisor has 25 years of experience in custodial services and has already made some positive changes. Cory said that he will bring him to the next meeting and introduce him to the MAC.

Marine Safety Operations

- Chief Gonzalo Medina reported that October was a busy month. Marine Safety has been swift-water training in preparation for El Nino. Also, Marine Safety is training with other City departments to form a united plan of action in dealing with the upcoming El Nino storms.

LBPD - Marine Patrol Unit

- No report.

Executive MAC

- All items covered.

Operations Committee

- Received the draft of the Marina Rules and Regulations to review for January and will present to MAC after they review.

Facilities Committee

- Commissioner Peterson reported on two key points that were discussed at the meeting: 1) Develop a policy through the MAC, as the marina begins to generate revenue, to put capital aside to be reinvested in other things; and, 2) Add value to the marinas where it is possible; i.e., a workout center/gym, extend the pumpout system to the docks in LBSM (as they are in ABM), and a few other ideas that may generate additional revenue and add value to the boatowners.

Finance Committee

- No meeting held.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Reminder: No MAC meeting or sub-committee meetings in December.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Alfredo Fernandez thanked the Marine Bureau for their actions during the Tsunami threat in September. He said that the boatowners appreciated that the employees came into the office to make phone calls warning them of the potential tsunami threat, and for Marine Maintenance staff who walked the docks to make sure the boats and docks were safe.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The December 10, 2015, MAC meeting is CANCELLED. Next Meeting: Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 2:30p.m., at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

cc: Stephen Scott, Interim Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
City Clerk