



Date: June 16, 2014
To: Marine Advisory Commission
From: Elvira Hallinan, Acting Manager of Marinas and Beaches
Subject: MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2014
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION (MAC)

Commissioners Present

Rick DuRee, Chair
Darlene Gidley, Vice Chair
Eric Peterson
Mike Schachter
Scott Schaidle
David Thornburg
Ted Kuhn
Randy Crawford

Commissioners Absent

Peter Hogenson

Marine Bureau Personnel

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

City Staff

Scott Dixon, Capt., Marine Safety/Lifeguards/LBFD
Hurley Owens, Supt., Marine Maintenance
David Prentice, Sgt., LBPD/Marine Patrol Detail
Eric Lopez, Tidelands CIP Officer, City Manager Ofs.
Tony Resendez, Project Manager, City Manager Ofs.
Julie Maleki, 3rd Dist. Council

Guests

Ross Wallach, SCSC
Amanda Bird, Orange County Coastkeeper
Bob Vatz, LBMBOA (Boatowner's Asso.)
Alfredo Fernandez, LBMBOA
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 May 8, 2014, MAC minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Elvira Hallinan presented plaques to Vice Chair Darlene Gidley and Commissioner Scott Schaidle, marking the end of their eight-year terms as MAC commissioners. Elvira personally thanked them for their support and assistance and for what they have brought to the Commission. The plaques read, "In appreciation for eight years of outstanding and dedicated service on the Marine Advisory Commission, City of Long Beach, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, June 2014."
- Ross Wallach of the Southern California Speedboat Club (SCSC), spoke before the MAC and asked for approval of a noise variance from 85 dcb to 120 dcb, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, August 2 and 3, 2014, for their Sprint Nationals event. He noted that this organization has been putting on these races in Marine Stadium since 1946, and thanked the MAC for awarding the noise variance for the last 13 years. He also asked for approval for Friday, August 1, for a "meet the press day." As this is the National Championships in all flatbottom classes, SCSC would like to highlight this prestigious event, Marine Stadium and its history. He asked for approximately 1 – 1 ½ hours in the afternoon to begin at approximately 4:30 p.m. Elvira Hallinan said that she believed Friday was available, however, she would verify with the Marine Bureau's Special Event Coordinator regarding this date.

It was moved by Commissioner Peterson and seconded by Commissioner Schachter that the MAC approve the request by SCSC for a noise variance from 85 dcb to 120 dcb on Saturday and Sunday, August 2 and 3, 2014, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., with the addendum that should their event be approved for Friday, August 1, the noise variance would be in effect for that day also. The motion passed unanimously.

- Elvira Hallinan introduced Amanda Bird of Orange County Coastkeepers. Amanda spoke regarding their request for approval for the installation of an interpretive sign for the oyster bed project at the Jack Dunster Marine Biological Reserve. She said the oyster bed is very visible at low tide, and that they would like to install an interpretive sign to help educate the local community and visitors about what is going on with the restoration project. She explained that an oyster shell bed was installed in the reserve back in June of 2012, and the hope is that the oyster bed will fill in with naturally occurring oysters. They would like to use this signage as an educational tool for people to learn about oysters and why they are important to the Bay, i.e., oysters filter sediments from the water and help with water clarity. The cost for installation and maintenance would be borne by Orange County Coastkeepers. The sign will have a 10-year warranty and includes coverage of graffiti vandalism.

It was moved by Commissioner Thornburg and seconded by Commissioner Peterson that the MAC support the installation of an interpretive sign for the oyster shell bed in the Jack Dunster Marine Biological Reserve. The motion passed unanimously.

- Elvira Hallinan introduced Eric Lopez; Tidelands CIP Officer, and Tony Resendez; Project Manager, who spoke to the MAC about the reconfiguration of the Marina Green Parking Lot. This Tidelands project includes the boatowner parking lot in LBSM. Eric Lopez said that one of their projects is to rehabilitate all of the beach parking lots. This year they were able to rehabilitate the 54th Street Lot, Claremont Lot, LaVerne Lot and the Mother's Beach Lot. He said they are gearing up for the refurbishment of the next set of parking lots, and that one of these lots is the Marina Green Lot, which is split up into two sections; the boatowner area and the public area. He stated they have encountered a few difficulties with this project. He said that they have been unable to locate permits from the Coastal Commission for the gate arms that were incorporated into the parking lot approximately 10 to 20 years ago. These gate arms separate the boatowner lot from the public parking lot. He also said the dimensions of the parking stalls in LBSM are not consistent with current parking standards. He said they are looking at making traffic flow better through the parking lot, which would require the removal of the unpermitted gate arm and resizing of the stalls to be code compliant with the size standard for parking stalls. New pay stations, overlay of new asphalt/concrete, and fixing problems with tree roots and drainage that currently exist in this lot will be addressed. He said that the parking lots are now monitored by Central Parking, a private company. He indicated that Central Parking is responsible for the day to day maintenance of the parking lot and the security of the area. He said that as part of Central Parking's scope of work they are required to actively monitor and make sure the parking lot is secure and functioning properly. A discussion was held and input was given by the MAC providing alternatives to the removal of the gate arms, which have proven to provide greatly improved security to the boatowners. It was suggested by the MAC that they meet with the LBPD/Marine Patrol Detail and discuss the need for the gate arms as security for the boatowners and traffic control during special events and busy weekends. Sergeant Prentice spoke to the issue and said that the removal of the gatearms would significantly impact boater safety and security in the lot. He said that Marine Patrol has worked very hard to secure this area, and that these gate arms are constantly used to control traffic for special events. He said they currently have problems with vandalism, drunk drivers, large motorhomes trying access to this area and that the removal of the gate arms would only promote more crime. Eric Lopez said that he understands that security and monitoring is a concern and that they would go back and meet and work closely with the LBPD/Marine Patrol Detail to address these concerns. They will then come back before the MAC with potential ways to address these issues.

Larry Goodhue reminded the Commission that approximately 20 years ago the City challenged the Coastal Commission regarding closing the beaches at night for security purposes. He said that the end result was that this was a security/safety issue and the City won the challenge.

Alfredo Fernandez commented that if the boater parking area is open to the general public, they will park there. He said that in ABM, the public (non-boatowners) park in the boatowner parking area all the time. He said that they are cited by Marine Patrol, but that the parking space is lost to the boatowner until they (the non-boatowner) leave.

OLD BUSINESS

- Elvira Hallinan reported on the ABM Basin 2 Rebuild. She said that on May 28, the Bureau received approval to dispose all the dredged material in the ocean. She explained that during the original documentary planning process, Anchor found some potentially contaminated material that exceed the levels allowed to be disposed of in the ocean. However, this is less than 10 % of the total material that is going to be dredged and the Bureau has been given authorization to go ahead and mix it in with the total dredged material to be deposited in the Los Angeles (LA2) ocean disposal site. She said this information will be placed on the Department/Bureau's website. She stated that the biological monitoring portion of Basins 2 and 3 has begun and the Bureau is in the process of surveying for eelgrass. She explained that back in 2009, in order to mitigate for Basin 2 the Bureau had to plant 1,200 square feet of eelgrass. At the end of 2013, it looked like the Bureau would have to plant 2,400 square feet of eelgrass. Right now the City is in the process of performing another survey to see exactly how much eelgrass will need to be planted. She said that the fire permits have been approved, the building and demolition permits will be approved by the end of this week, and she is waiting for the plumbing permits for Basin 2. She said that as far as the utility portion of the project is concerned, there have been a few delays due to staffing changes by Southern California Edison (SCE). She said this may cause a couple of weeks delay and that Moffat and Nichol are working with SCE. She said that she will also put the plot-line diagrams on the website. Elvira reported that as far as the \$10.9 million to be refunded to the Marina Fund is concerned, the item is on the California State Lands Commission Agenda for June 19, and she plans to go before the City Council on July 22 to have these funds appropriated to the project for the first phase of Basin 2, Gangways 11, 12 and 13.
- Elvira Hallinan reported that the ABM Fuel Dock project will go before the Coastal Commission on Friday, June 13. The project is being handled through Fleet Services. She said that she will put the schedule on the website, and that the work will not begin until after Labor Day.
- Elvira Hallinan gave an update on the vacant Marina Manager position and said that 60 applications were received. The top 10 applications were given to the Director to review and he selected eight for background checks and interviews to be held later this month. She reported that Chairman DuRee has agreed to be on the interview panel. The first round of interviews will be held at the end of this month and the second round should be held the first week in July.

BUREAU MANAGER'S REPORT

Marina Operations Report

- Elvira Hallinan gave the slip status report for the month of May. She stated that revenue is on target for the year. She said that the temporary assignments (TAs) in Basin 2 have been given letters informing them that once the rebuild of Basin 2 begins they will be given 30 days to leave the marina and will need to find another slip. Many of them are going to LBSM for a permanent slip.

Maintenance Operations Report

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

- Commissioner Peterson thanked Hurley for the additional skimmers for LBSM.

LBFD/Marine Safety Report

Scott Dixon, Captain, Marine Safety/Lifeguards, gave the Marine Safety status report for the month of May.

- Captain Dixon reported that there were approximately 800 swim rescues in the month of May.
- Captain Dixon reported that this Saturday is the first day of the summer season. There will be more Lifeguards on the beach and an additional rescue boat on the water.
- 525 kids are involved in the Junior Lifeguard Program this summer.
- 30 new trainees have been put through the Lifeguard training program.
- Captain Dixon reported that as a result of last Tuesday's City Council meeting, Lifeguards will be put through an additional 80 hours of fire training. A lot of it will be training they have already done and some will be new training. There will also be three Fire captains on Rescue Boat 2.

LBPD/Marine Patrol Report

David Prentice, Sergeant, Marine Patrol Detail/LBPD, gave the Marine Patrol status report for May.

- Two new recruits for Marine Patrol will begin work shortly. By the end of summer, Marine Patrol is hoping to have four new Marine Patrol officers on board.
- There have been some problems on the fuel dock road in LBSM. As an officer safety issue, Marine Patrol Officers have been instructed not to go into that area at night alone.
- The Alamitos Bay Beach Lot will again be included in Marine Patrol duties. Issues in this area dramatically affect the boatowners in LBSM.
- Vandalism has been occurring in ABM at the Alamitos Bay Landing long dock. There have been complaints of fishermen in the area in the early morning hours at this dock. Marine Patrol is monitoring this area.

Executive MAC

- Vice Chair Gidley said that they will be looking at slip fee adjustments for the fall. Elvira Hallinan said that she spoke with Commissioner Schaidle and will bring it before the MAC at next month's meeting.

Operations Committee

- All items covered.

Facilities Committee

- No meeting held.

Finance Committee

- Commissioner Schaidle reported that he met with Elvira Hallinan and reviewed the current budget. He said that the City would be recommending a 3% increase. Elvira Hallinan did say that basically the City committed to roughly a 2% increase over the slip rent revenue overall. This is what the City is committed to with all the debt service increase. She said it works out to a 3% increase for concrete and 1% for wood.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Alfredo Fernandez asked about the SCE cooling system that will be removed and its effect on Alamitos Bay. Elvira Hallinan said she has spoken with the Director and he said that the City Manager's office is dealing with this issue and that it will be a subject for the new Marine Bureau Manager to address.
- Alfredo Fernandez asked if the LBMBOA could be included in the slip fee increase discussions. Chairman DuRee replied that he could not see a reason why LBMBOA could not be included in the discussions.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Peterson again mentioned the soda machine located at the boat owner restroom (closest to the Shoreline Yacht Club). He said that the outlet is being used by transients, and that the transients are moving the machine out in order to charge their phones. Elvira Hallinan said that she has taking action to have that machine removed.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is set for July 17, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

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