



**Date:** June 18, 2013  
**To:** Members of the Marine Advisory Commission  
**From:** Mark A. Sandoval, Manager of Marinas and Beaches  
**Subject:** MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 13, 2013  
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION (MAC)

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Commissioners Present

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

Marine Bureau Personnel

Elvira Hallinan, Special Projects Officer  
Vivian Crook, Secretary

City Staff

Steven Covarubias, Sgt. LBPD/Marine Patrol Unit  
Gonzalo Medina, Captain, Marine Safety/LBFD  
Hurley Owens, Supt./ Marine Maint.  
John Amick, Supervisor, Marine Maintenance  
Don Easterby, Interim.Supt.,Beach Maint.  
Julie Maleki, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dist. Council

Commissioners Absent

Guests

Fred Khammar, Beach Ventures  
Mark Lewis  
Karl Weimer, LBMBOA  
Bob Vatz, LBMBOA  
John Counts, Coast Guard Auxillary

Chairman Hogenson 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 9, 2013, MAC minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Mark Lewis, boatowner, complimented Mark Sandoval on his newsletter (Marina Reader) article regarding the proposed slip fee increase discussed at the last MAC meeting. He said that he knows this is a tough decision and felt Mark articulated everyone's position.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Elvira Hallinan reported that the ABM Rebuild is going well with Docks 1 and 2 completed and only one 90-foot slip unfilled. Docks 3, 4 and 5 should be complete by the first week of July.
- Elvira Hallinan gave an update on the LBSM Fuel Dock reporting that both diesel and gas pumps are working. Work on the ABM Fuel Dock will not start until the end of summer. Vice Chairman DuRee asked if the non-compliance status and the grace period given will effect the start date. Elvira replied that with the fixes that were done ABM is now compliant and has more time to finish.
- Elvira Hallinan gave an update on the 2014 slip fee recommendation. She reviewed MAC's recommendation, which was 0.5% increase for wood docks and 2.2% increase for concrete docks. Financial Management requested 2% more in revenue. The final recommendation was a 1% increase for wood docks and a 2.5% increase for concrete.
- Elvira Hallinan informed the MAC that the ABM Rebuild Project for Basin 5 will be on the City Council Agenda next Tuesday.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Elvira Hallinan asked that the MAC provide input on the 2012 MAC Annual Report by July 5. Commissioner Peterson asked about updating or changing the Goals and Objectives to the Marine Bureau's Strategic Plan. It was explained that these are the goals and objectives that the City has put forward. He commented that he felt they needed to be changed to something that is current, real, reasonable, specific and more achievable.
- Fred Khammar gave an overview on the mooring program at the end of the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier. Fred is starting his 26th year as the City's beach concessionaire, tenth year as the City's pier concessionaire, and fourth year as the City's mooring ball concessionaire. As of Memorial Day, seven of his business locations on the beach are open. He will produce about 40 special events this year, all free to the public. He has added kayaks and standup paddleboard operations to three of his locations on the beach. Ten years ago he responded to an RFP for a concessionaire on the pier. He was the only bidder and won the bid. This year he has increased the special event venues on the pier. He is trying to change the public's perception of what the pier is to what it could be. He said that it has been a tough battle and that there are still problems with fishermen making a big mess on the pier every day. He has contacted the City regarding the number of homeless, graffiti and vandalism on the pier. He said that since his email, police presence in the last few days has been remarkable in response time. The bait and tackle shop is open and has been everyday for the last six years. Buoy's Restaurant will be open every weekend through the summer and is available for special events and private parties. This year he has added jet skis and fishing boat rentals from the pier.

Regarding the Mooring Program, Fred explained that five years ago the City put out an RFP for moorings off the pier, again Fred was the only responder and won the bid. At that time he installed nine mooring balls as a test field; three in the lee of Island White, three on the east side and three on the west side of the pier. Right after that the dock was removed from the pier, which left no way to get to the mooring balls for a year. The balls began to deteriorate and all nine were lost. Per the City's direction Fred had to use the Seaflex system because it met EIR requirements, in that the mooring ball system could be screwed into the bottom and not disrupt eelgrass. Fred said that he dove in this area more than once and could find no eelgrass. Seaflex assumed responsibility for three of the lost balls and replaced them. The other six balls they blamed on the installer for putting substandard shackles both on the bottom and on the mooring ball and, due to wear, the mooring system either broke loose from the bottom or the top (just the ball broke loose). He said he lost all confidence in the equipment. The three mooring balls left have new equipment. He said in order to make this program work the balls need to be leased using a Catalina type program where a user would pay for the installation and yearly maintenance costs, and Fred would rent the ball when user is not on it. The balls are rated to hold up to a 70-foot boat. He said he would like to have a partnership with a yacht club, where the club would buy six mooring balls and allow their members to use them. He said he can install up to 45 mooring balls and that all the permits and insurance requirements are in place, and taxes are paid annually. He said that the pier does need work and that this is a concern. He said he would appreciate the MAC's assistance with moving this program forward. Chairman Hogenson said that this appears to be an underutilized asset. Chairman Hogenson asked if Fred would come to the next Facilities Committee meeting in August and present a plan for expanding this program. Fred Khammar said that he would get a report together and send it to the Facilities Committee for their review.

## **BUREAU MANAGER'S REPORT**

### Marina Operations Report

Elvira Hallinan gave the report on the slip status for the month of May.

- The In and Out Report shows three vessels left LBSM in the month of May. Exit surveys show that people canceling their slips are selling their vessels.
- A letter was sent out to yacht brokers in Southern California informing them that the Long Beach Marinas have slips available. Hopefully this will assist with filling slips.

### Maintenance Operations Report

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

- Commissioner Peterson asked about installation of the new oil sheds. He said that they have not been installed. Dock E/F and Dock Y still have the old sheds. Hurley Owens said that he will look into this immediately.

- Chairman Hogenson asked about the problem with graffiti on the beach. Hurley Owens responded that the large problem with graffiti on the beaches is due to lack of enforcement by Marine Patrol, that it is his understanding that Marine Patrol can no longer patrol the beaches. Chairman Hogenson asked why Marine Patrol units are not patrolling the beaches. Sergeant Covarubias responded that Marine Patrol has been instructed by their LBPD command staff to stay off the beaches and concentrate on the marinas.

#### LBFD/Marine Safety Report

Captain Gonzalo Medina gave the Marine Safety status report for the month of May.

- Marine Safety is seeing a problem with groups of college age/high school kids drinking, smoking and using marijuana on the beaches. Marine Safety has been going door-to-door contacting residents on the Peninsula handing out information on who to call when they see this type of activity occurring. He said the Lifeguard on the beach may not be able to appropriately deal with the issue because they are first of all there to perform rescues and are not equipped to handle a large crowd of intoxicated people, however they can report and a Marine Safety Sergeant will respond to address these issues. Residents are calling and Marine Safety has been responding aggressively. They have already seen a positive effect. He explained that many times when residents call the Police Department they get a delayed response because the Police Department will prioritize a drinking on the beach call with other calls received throughout the City. A Marine Safety Beach Sergeant will then respond and try to mitigate the issue and cite appropriately.

#### LBPD/Marine Patrol Report

MP Sergeant Covarubias, LBPD/Marine Patrol Unit, gave the Marine Patrol report for May.

- Marine Patrol has seen a slight increase in auto burglaries in LBSM and Shoreline Village areas, as well as kayak thefts in ABM. Marine Patrol has increased their presence in the parking lots. Numerous investigations have resulted in some arrests.
- Marine Patrol has seen an increase in people staying aboard boats, some of which are unauthorized. One incident resulted in an arrest and one has gone to trial.
- Sergeant Covarubias clarified that while Marine Patrol was under the command of Commander Rick Rocci they were instructed to focus on the marinas and to stay off the beaches, unless they were needed to respond to an emergency call. To date, Marine Patrol has not received any rescinding orders to do otherwise. Vice Chairman DuRee asked when this order was given to Marine Patrol by the Commander, if there was a corresponding increase in regular LBPD patrols as far as beachside activities are concerned. Sergeant Covarubias responded that he did not know. Chairman Hogenson commented that he believed that LBPD does not have four-wheel drive vehicles to respond to beach calls. Sergeant Covarubias responded that a very select few of them do. Commissioner Schaidle said that LBPD does have ATVs, however they only use them during the day and not at night, which does not make sense to him due to the nighttime activity.

Captain Medina commented that Marine Safety has always had a good working relationship with Marine Patrol. He explained that when an incident occurs, a police landside unit will respond as backup and many times there are access issues due to the location of enforcement. This leaves a Lifeguard unit to deal with the issue for a much longer period of time than they are comfortable. He said that with the changes in the State prison system, Lifeguards are seeing a huge increase in parolees down on the beaches, especially around 450 Shoreline Drive and west of the Belmont Pier. Vice Chairman DuRee recommended that someone from the command staff of the Police Department attend a MAC meeting and explain the rationale behind focusing only on the marinas, and the possibility of rescinding or modifying the order. Elvira Hallinan said that she would speak to Mark regarding a meeting.

#### Executive MAC

- All items covered.

#### Operations Committee

- All items covered.

#### Facilities Committee

- No meeting held.

#### Finance Committee

- No meeting held.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

- John Counts of the Coast Guard Auxiliary addressed the MAC. He is responsible for Coast Guard programs that involve the inspection of the marinas and docks, and Security Awareness Training. He distributed information regarding security training and said that he is available to give an introduction to the program. He is also involved in the Maritime Domain Awareness Inspector Program, which handles inspections of the dock and/or boats that need to be looked at a little more closely. Commissioner Gidley asked if there was a program for expired flares. He responded that he would obtain the information and provide it at the next meeting.

### **COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

- Commissioner Peterson stated that after the “Pride” festival, the contractor who removed the chain link fencing left a lot of heavy wire/sharp object debris all around the public parking that runs along Shoreline Park and the marina area. Wherever the fencing was installed, that is where you can find the debris. The debris is a hazard for tires. Commissioner Schachter agreed that the company did not do a good clean up job.
- Commissioner Schachter said that the street sweeper is rarely seen in LBSM. They do not sweep once a week, in fact they rarely sweep once a month. He said the boatowners move their cars accordingly so that the sweeper can clean, however the sweeper does not make the rounds.
- Commissioner Gidley commented that the grass in ABM is very long. Hurley Owens responded that a new contract was awarded for landscaping and that they are learning the area. He said that he would mention this to the ABM supervisor.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m. The next meeting is set for July 11, 2013, at 2:30 p.m. at the **Long Beach Yacht Club**.

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