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PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

Mission and Goals

Mission

We create community and enhance the quality of life in Long Beach through people, places, program, and partnerships.

Goals

- Ensure open space, parks, and recreational facilities meet community needs.
- Ensure City parks and recreational facilities provide a positive experience and image.
- Ensure recreational programming, leisure opportunities, and community services meet the diverse needs and interests of residents and visitors.
- Ensure beaches, waterways, and marine amenities are accessible and provide a positive experience and image.
- Ensure marinas are fiscally sound and meet boat owner and community needs.

MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Mission

To enhance and preserve the beaches, waterways and adjoining facilities of the City of Long Beach.

MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT

Membership

The Marine Advisory Commission was established by the City Council by minute order on May 1, 1956, LBMC Chapter 2.48. Commission members serving in calendar year 2005 were:

Richard Miller, Chairman
Bradley Whyte, Vice Chairman
Mike Malbon
Mike Reed
Holly Carpenter
Harry Hutton
Randy Crawford
Peter Hogensen
David Calhoun

Powers and Duties of the Commission

The duties and responsibilities of the Marine Advisory Commission are as follows:

- To consult with and advise the City Council and/or City staff on matters in formulating City policies regarding marinas, beaches, waterways, near shore areas adjacent thereto and facilities thereon.
- To study and analyze problems referred to it by the City Council and/or City staff, for the purpose of evaluation and recommendation of policy to the City.
- To perform such other functions as are specifically conferred on the Commission by the City Council.
- To conduct hearings of appeal of any cancellation of a permit issued pursuant to Chapter 16.08 of the Municipal Code 16.08.330.
- To analyze requests of special interest groups or individuals, and make recommendations designed to insure that areas within the Marine Bureau's jurisdiction provide the widest possible benefits to the greatest number of people.

FORMAL ACTIONS OF THE MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION
FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2005

January 20, 2005

- It was moved by Commissioner Malbon and seconded by Commissioner Crawford that the MAC approve the reduction of slip fees during the rebuild for gangways FF and GG in LBSM by ten per cent (10%), with the request that options be explored to reduce the fees without the necessity of going back before the City Council to reinstate the current rate. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Commissioner Reed and seconded by Commissioner Crawford that the MAC support the conceptual plan of the Belmont Veteran's Memorial Pier commercial rebuild as presented by Beach Ventures. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Commissioner Malbon and seconded by Commissioner Crawford that the MAC dedicate the January MAC meeting to the memory of Doug Parsons. The motion passed unanimously.

February 10, 2005

- It was moved by Commissioner Hogensen and seconded by Commissioner Hutton that the MAC approve the proposal by the Marine Bureau to ask the City Council to approve the use of 540 feet of slip space for use by Access to Sailing, with the Marine Bureau dictating where the slip space will be located. The motion passed unanimously.

March 2005

- No meeting held in March 2005

April 7, 2005

- It was moved by Commissioner Malbon and seconded by Vice Chairman Whyte that the MAC receive and file the Marina Rate Comparison report. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Commissioner Crawford and seconded by Commissioner Hutton that the MAC endorse the Temporary Authorization Program, with improvements if needed, and that the rules of the program be enforced. The motion passed unanimously.

May 12, 2005

- No formal action taken.

June 9, 2005

- It was moved by Vice Chairman Whyte and seconded by Commissioner Malbon that the MAC accept the 2005 Long Beach Marina Survey as submitted by the Marine Bureau. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Vice Chairman Whyte and seconded by Commissioner Malbon that the MAC support the CPI increase to be effective October 1, 2005. The motion passed with Commissioner Hutton opposed.

July 14, 2005

- It was moved by Commissioner Malbon and seconded by Commissioner Reed that the MAC support the approval of a 15-minute accumulative noise variance at a level of 115db for the 2005 Long Beach Sprint Nationals, to be held on August 13 and 14. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Commissioner Malbon and seconded by Commissioner Crawford that the MAC support as requested the use of a PA system on the south shore of Marine Stadium for the next five Sea Fest events. The motion passed with Commissioner Hutton opposed and Chairman Miller abstaining.
- It was moved by Commissioner Malbon and seconded by Commissioner Crawford that the MAC uphold the cancellation of Mr. Neimar's slip permit. The motion passed unanimously.

August 2005

- No meeting held in August 2005

September 8, 2005

- It was moved by Commissioner Crawford and seconded by Commissioner Malbon that Richard Miller continue as Chairman of the MAC until June 2006. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Commissioner Crawford and seconded by Commissioner Malbon that Bradley Whyte continue as Vice-Chairman of the MAC until June 2006. The motion passed unanimously.

October 13, 2005

- It was moved by Vice Chairman Whyte and seconded by Commissioner Crawford that the MAC support the actions of the Marine Bureau and uphold the slip cancellation for Mr. Haile. The motion passed unanimously.

November 17, 2005

- It was moved by Commissioner Malbon and seconded by Commissioner Carpenter that the MAC support the Tree Trimming Policy as presented, and deal with the issue further at the December Operations Committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Commissioner Crawford and seconded by Commissioner Hogenson that the MAC support a weekly Sunday Arts and Crafts Market in the Alamitos Bay Marina Parking Lot. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Vice Chairman Whyte and seconded by Commissioner Malbon that the MAC Operations Committee review Laura Kennedy's cancellation appeal. The motion passed unanimously.
- It was moved by Commissioner Crawford and seconded by Vice Chairman Whyte that the MAC support a \$5.00 per-foot per-day rate in the Storage Fee. Commissioners Reed and Hutton opposed the motion. The motion passed.

December 2005

- No meeting held in December 2005

**MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION
ATTENDANCE RECORD
January – December 2005**

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Richard Miller	A	X	0	X	X	X	X	0	A	X	X	0	7	2
Mike Malbon	X	X	0	X	A	X	X	0	X	X	X	0	8	1
Mike Reed	X	X	0	X	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	0	9	0
Holly Carpenter	A	X	0	X	X	X	X	0	X	A	X	0	7	2
Bradley Whyte	X	X	0	X	X	X	A	0	X	X	X	0	8	1
Harry Hutton	X	X	0	X	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	0	9	0
Randy Crawford	X	A	0	X	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	0	8	1
David Calhoun	A	X	0	X	A	X	A	0	A	A	X	0	4	5
Peter Hogenson	X	X	0	X	X	X	X	0	X	X	X	0	9	0

Note:

X = Present

A = Absent

0 = No Meetings Held

CITY PERSONNEL ASSISTING THE MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Phil Hester - Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Mark Sandoval – Manager of Marinas and Beaches

Vivian Crook - Marine Bureau Secretary

Dennis Eschen – Manager of Planning & Development

Jeff Edwards – Superintendent of Marine Facility Maintenance

Sergeant Tom Keleher - LBPD Marine Patrol Division

Mark Boone - LBFD Marine Safety Division Chief

Grant Jeffries - LBFD Marine Safety Division Lieutenant

MARINE BUREAU – STRATEGIC PLAN

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the City's Marinas to enhance the quality of life of users of the City's beach and marine environment through continuous, cost efficient and effective delivery of needed services as characterized by safe, clean, well-maintained, attractive and secure beach and marine facilities.

Goals and Objectives

Goal #1 – To ensure both short and long term financial stability of the City's Marinas through the use of competitive fees and charges supplemented by other needed revenues to support operating expenditures and capital.

Objective 1 – To identify the three Marina facilities: Downtown, Alamitos Bay and Rainbow Harbor, as three separate cost and revenue centers within the overall framework of the City's Marina Enterprise Fund.

Objective 2 – To identify the City's beaches and other marina environment as independent cost and revenue centers within the City's Marina Enterprise Fund.

Objective 3 – Maintain a minimum occupancy rate of (October 1, 1998) 85% for available slips at the Downtown Marina and 93% at Alamitos Bay.

Objective 4 – Identify and allocate support services costs, including administration, police, fire and maintenance to the Bureau's four cost centers.

Objective 5 – Establish user fees and charges at the three facilities that cover the costs reasonably born by the City and Bureau in providing desired services while maintaining competitive position in private market place.

Goal #2 – To ensure desired amenities are made available to the Marina's users.

Objective 6 – Develop a Master Plan for the Downtown and Alamitos Bay facilities that will guide current and future infrastructure renewal and expansion for 1999-2020.

Objective 7 – Secure needed funding for implementing adopted Master Plans at both Downtown and Alamitos Bay facilities.

Goal #3 – To provide outstanding (quality) services to Marina users.

Objective 8 – Conduct customer services training for Marine Bureau Staff

Goal #4 – to provide for the safety and well being of users at the City's Marina facilities.

Objective 9 – Establish a Trust Fund to support needed capital improvements to eliminate current and future deferred maintenance of an annual appropriation of 10% of gross income.

Objective 10 – Maintain minimum staffing levels for police and fire services to ensure timely response to calls for service at Marina facilities.

COMMISSION COMMITTEES

Operations Committee, for both marina and beaches, continues to meet once a month. This committee dealt with many issues.

On the beaches and in the waterways, the committee dealt with a number of issues including the use of a public address system for Sea Festival events in Marine Stadium, a tree trimming policy for the tideland areas and the implementation of an Arts and Crafts Market adjacent to the Alamitos Bay Marina.

In the marinas, the committee dealt with the need to continue to rebuild the aging infrastructure, and how the Department of Boating and Waterways fits into the process. The committee also dealt with a slip fee discount for tenants affected by the rebuild, the waiving of slip fees for Access to Sailing, a Long Beach organization that provides sailing and other on-water access to physically challenged disabled individuals, and a myriad of rule evaluations, many of which are somewhat controversial.

Facilities Committee met 11 times during the year. Through the year, the Committee followed the progress of a variety of projects, including the rebuild of the Shoreline and Rainbow Marinas, the continued planning for the rebuild of the Alamitos Bay Marina and the refurbishment of the area around the Belmont Veteran's Memorial Pier. The Committee also followed the progress of several capital improvement projects including:

- Bluff Erosion Mitigation,
- Beach Erosion Mitigation,
- Marine Stadium and Davies launch ramp improvements,
- Maintenance Yard improvements
- Aqualink Dock improvements, and
- Launch Ramp projects.

The Committee has closely evaluated a number of proposed projects in the eastside waterfront area, including the proposed redevelopment of the Seaport Marina Hotel, the proposed development for the Home Depot, and a proposed restaurant in the parking lot of the Alamitos Bay Marina. The Committee is adamant that marina parking is not adversely affected by any of these projects, and is equally adamant that traffic issues be evaluated from a cumulative perspective before any of the proposed projects are approved.

Finance Committee delved deeply into the Tidelands Fund budgets and continues to support efforts to convince the City of the need to reconsider the allocation of tax funds that are generated in the Tidelands, but are currently being directed into the General Fund. After many years of an abundance of funds from oil revenues, the Tidelands Funds are now suffering a continual deficit. The Committee also strongly supports the re-pay of funds "borrowed" by the Tidelands Operating Fund in the early 1990s to support the operations on the beach and in the waterways, if those funds are needed to supplement the marina rebuild activities.

The Finance Committee also evaluated fee change proposals, and has supported the evaluation of a square-foot based slip fee pricing system and a move toward a cost recovery approach to slip fee setting.

OBSERVATIONS

The Marine Advisory Commission continues to watch with concern the fiscal condition in the City's Tidelands. Fortunately, better than expected oil revenues have continued to cover the Tidelands operating structural deficit in recent years. That said, the Commission cautions against counting on inflated oil revenues to continue to cover the Tidelands structural deficit in the future. In addition, escalating construction costs and the need to hold slips vacant due to the marina rebuild has created a situation in the marinas whereby operating revenues are falling short of covering operating expenditures for the next three fiscal years. The Commission recommends that the loan made from the Marina Fund to the Tidelands Operating Fund in the early 1990s, reported to be approximately \$16 million, be used to cover this deficit. Finally, the Commission recognizes the citywide value of a vibrant waterfront, but questions the practice of transferring sales tax, transient occupancy tax, utility tax, and property taxes generated within the Tidelands area to the General Fund. The total funds involved are approximately \$13 million annually. Altering this practice to maintain some or all of these funds in the Tidelands Funds would provide needed funding to continue to maintain the tidelands' assets that the City holds dear.

The Marine Advisory Commission continues to observe with concern the backlog of Tidelands infrastructure improvement projects that has grown in the recent past. The recent increase of oil revenue in the Tidelands has afforded an opportunity to begin to address this backlog, however, the Commission believes the City must be diligent in continuing to allocate available funds to the list of deferred capital projects in the Tidelands, a list that has grown to over \$30 million.

Finally, the Marine Advisory Commission has dealt with a number of issues this past year in which the Commission worked closely with the Parks and Recreation Commission. In these dealings, it became evident that the charges of the two Commissions were much different. In the upcoming year, the Commission will review its charge, and determine whether it would be more effective to enhance the duties of the Commission, possibly to the level of policy-setting, similar to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

DEPARTMENT PREAMBLE

The financing of capital items in the Tidelands areas continues to be a top concern of the Commission.

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine believes that recreation is a basic human need. It provides social, cultural, physical and intellectual activities for all to enjoy in a quality environment, with inherent values beyond the scope of the activity.

People in the developed nations of the world have achieved an awesome technological capability that has relieved them of considerable effort in attaining their physiological needs, while giving them leisure. Simultaneously, our social structure has become increasingly urbanized; removing us from direct contact with the natural resources that still must sustain us. However, individuals have not yet completely achieved the ability to use their leisure time to stimulate the mind of the individual, as well as to enhance his society. Increased population and the rapid growth of cities have resulted in loss of prime open space and created environmental problems almost beyond comprehension. The need to provide open space, including the continued provision of usable waterfront space, continues to be challenge. Further, the need to educate a diverse urban populace as to how to fully appreciate and utilize waterfront recreational opportunities, must be recognized and addressed.

The City of Long Beach has both the opportunity and the responsibility to work with private enterprise and other levels of government to fill these needs, while serving every segment of society, through the provision of a balanced program of leisure service opportunities, and environmental education. Youth will be helped to grow physically, mentally and spiritually while developing positive attitudes, which will help them avoid mistakes leading to the further degradation of the environment and society. Adults will have an outlet from the tensions of a competitive, industrialized urban life, and a chance to express their individuality and creativity, while becoming aware of their dependency upon, and inter-relationship with natural resources. Older adults will find meaning and purpose in their retirement years.

Provision of basic leisure service opportunities and facilities is a major responsibility of government. In addition, voluntary and special interest groups, private agencies and commercial enterprises should be encouraged to supply appropriate leisure services in a coordinated delivery system, which will benefit the citizens of Long Beach in the following ways:

Personal Benefits

1. Investment in our youth to provide for positive lifestyle choices and alternatives to self-destructive behavior.
2. Recreation provides the opportunity to lead balanced lives, achieve our full potential, and gain satisfaction in life.

3. Skills our citizens develop through meaningful recreation activities are essential sources of self-esteem and positive self-image.

Social Benefits

4. Recreation opportunities can bridge the gap with our citizens and reduce alienation, loneliness, and anti-social behaviors.
5. Leisure service activities promote ethnic and cultural harmony, by allowing people to share their differences and play and grow together.
6. Community pride is generated through leisure service activities, facilities, programs, and voluntary commitment.

Economic Benefits

7. The provision of meaningful recreation activities, for our young people, reduces the high cost of vandalism and criminal activity.
8. The leisure services offered by our department are attractive to tourists and are an essential ingredient of this city's tourism industry.
9. Physical and mental health achieved through our department's delivery system, and balanced meaningful lifestyles, reduces expensive health care costs.

Environmental Benefits

10. Investing in the environment through our beaches, marinas, and waterways, and park land space in residential areas, leads to increased property values through accessibility and associated recreation opportunities.

Failure to meet the challenges of providing well-planned public open space and quality leisure-time opportunities, as well as the challenge of educating the public who use the facilities, will result in a diminution of the quality of human life. The City of Long Beach can help to meet these challenges.

The Marine Department, which was originally created in 1956 to operate and maintain the Alamitos Bay Marina, was incorporated in 1987 to create the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, and the Department maintains a primary objective to enhance the quality of life in Long Beach through people, places, programs and partnerships.

MARINE FACILITIES

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine oversees the operation and maintenance of all Long Beach waterfront public recreational facilities, including:

- 6 miles of beaches
- 3 marinas, with a combined 3,844 boat slips -- The largest municipally operated marina system in the nation (Alamitos Bay Marina, Shoreline Marina and Rainbow Marina).
- Rainbow Harbor, with a combined 2,100 feet of commercial dock space
- Marine Stadium (rowing, water-skiing and special event facility north of Alamitos Bay)
- Rainbow Lagoon (non-swimming recreation lagoon adjacent to the Hyatt Hotel in Downtown)
- Colorado Lagoon (swimming recreational lagoon north of Marine Stadium)
- Leeway Sailing Center
- Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier
- Belmont Pool