



Date: May 12, 2014
To: Marine Advisory Commission
From: Elvira Hallinan, Acting Manager of Marinas and Beaches
Subject: MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2014
MARINE ADVISORY COMMISSION (MAC)

Commissioners Present

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

Commissioners Absent

Ted Kuhn
Randy Crawford

Marine Bureau Personnel

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

City Staff

Randy Foster, Chief, Marine Safety/Lifeguards/LBFD
Michael Lewis, LBPD Sgt., Marine Patrol Detail
David Prentice, Sgt., LBPD/Marine Patrol Detail
Joseph Schlobohm, Sgt., LBPD/Marine Patrol Detail
Hurley Owens, Supt., Marine Maintenance
Don Easterby, Interim Supt., Beach Maint.
Julie Maleki, 3rd Dist. Council
Robert Cerince, Health Dept./Homeless Svs.Div.

Guests

Bob Vatz, LBMBOA (Boatowner's Asso.)
Alfredo Fernandez, LBMBOA
Kevin Hendra, 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 March 13, 2014, MAC minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Kevin Hendra spoke to the MAC and said that he received a notice to bring his vessel to the ABM dock to have it inspected. He said that it was an inconvenience for him to bring his vessel to the dock during the week and requested a Saturday inspection.

OLD BUSINESS

- Elvira Hallinan gave an update on the ABM Rebuild she responded to questions submitted by boatowners such as; why the current piles cannot be used and why not build wood docks as opposed to concrete. She explained that the current piles will not pass the building codes for concrete and that keeping the same piles would dictate keeping the same footprint, which would not be in compliance with what the Coastal Commission has approved. She explained that changing direction and using wood docks would require the Marine Bureau to go back to the Coastal Commission, which would mean more delay and more cost; i.e., the Bureau would have to pay the engineer to redesign the basins and go back to Planning and Building and pay for new permits. These are all questions that were reviewed during the initial planning stage. In response to the question asked as to why the project costs more now, she explained that the Coastal Commission has mandated in-slip pump-outs (extra cost not included in the preliminary numbers) and added eelgrass mitigation site costs. Utilities have been approved for Phase 4, which include all the utilities for Basin 2 and 3. She said that the SCE will install a larger transformer, going from a 4,000 volt transformer to a 10,000 volt transformer, which requires new conduit from the City property to the transformer and street. Bellingham Marine Industries (BMI) will be working on putting in all the conduit and all the utilities that will be tied directly to the docks in the parking lots. This process should take all of June, July and August. BMI will be back on site June 1, 2014. The in-water portion of the rebuild of Basin 2 will start in September. The City Manager is going back to the State Lands Commission to request reimbursement for the \$10.9 million dollars that was borrowed from the Marina Fund many years ago. Once the \$10.9 million is used up, the Bureau will utilize bond funding if available. She spoke with the DBW representative two weeks ago and said that DBW is now more open to loaning the City money as opposed to two years ago when they said that Long Beach had already received its share.

Commissioner Peterson commented that the Marina Fund should also be reimbursed any interest that was accrued. He said that this is money that was paid by the slip renters and he felt that it is not an unreasonable request, since the slip renters are being asked to foot the bill for the marina rebuild. Elvira said that this has been requested, however she has not received an answer. Commissioner Peterson felt that keeping up the pressure regarding this issue would be appropriate.

Elvira Hallinan said that, per the Coastal Commission, the Bureau will need to install dry boat storage in Basin 2. She said that it takes one year for the bonds to go through and that the City is beginning the process now to avoid delays and to make sure that we can dredge in time. The City Council has made the commitment for the ABM Rebuild to go forward. She said that at this point, during the rebuild the Farmer's Market can stay at its current location in the parking lot.

Elvira Hallinan explained that in preparation for the next phase of the rebuild, the Marine Bureau has mailed out letters to boatowners in Basin 2. She explained that this is the same procedure that has been applied to every basin that has been rebuilt so far. She said that the letter states that boatowners are being required to bring their vessel to the ABM Harbormaster Dock. The vessel must run under its own power and will be inspected for safety and seaworthiness. Boatowners are being required to provide current vessel registration and current insurance. Also, the boats are re-measured to ensure the Bureau records are up to date. She said that through these inspection procedures staff is finding out that in some cases the registered owner is no longer involved with the vessel; they have either sold the boat or passed on. She said that at some point the Bureau will be doing inspections on Saturdays however dates have not been determined as she needs to work on staffing schedules. She said that she wants to have all the inspections done by the end of August. Commissioner Schachter commented that holding tanks should also be inspected, as it is a California law.

- Elvira Hallinan spoke regarding the ABM Fuel Dock and said that nothing has changed. The fuel dock should come down in September.
- Elvira Hallinan reported that she has spoken with Carmen Viramontez, aid to Mayor Foster, regarding filling vacant MAC positions. She said they have several applications and the MAC should be getting two new commissioners soon.
- Elvira Hallinan spoke regarding the Marine Bureau Manager's position which was posted on April 28 and will close May 23, 2014. Alliance Reliance is the group handling the hiring process. She said this process could take anywhere between two and three months.

Larry Goodhue spoke and said that he believed someone with maritime experience should be considered for the Marina Manager's position and requested that MAC request a cease and desist to reissue the job specs and gave his recommendation for a candidate. Chairman DuRee explained that the MAC does not have the authority to hold up the hiring process. He explained that hiring at this level goes through the City Manager's office and the Personnel Department and that the qualifications for the position have been vetted through the City Manager and the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine. The process has begun and the MAC is looking forward to its completion.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mr. Robert Cerince of the City's Homeless Services Division in the Health Department spoke regarding the homeless population and issues that arise regarding the homeless in the marinas and on the beaches. He explained that the City of Long Beach is one of only three municipal jurisdictions in the State that has its own health department. What this does for Long Beach is afford the City public health services at a local level and enables the City better access to public health information and services. He works with non-profit agencies and other agencies that are not funded by most federal dollars. About seven million dollars are annually allocated through the Federal Government. These monies are managed through his office and are sub-contracted out to various service providers, such as U.S. Vets, Mental Health America, Catholic Charities, Interval House and other various upstanding non-profits that do the work of reaching out to people

experiencing homelessness. He explained many factors that may lead to someone or even families becoming homeless. He said that some may need assistance for a short period and some after being on the streets for more than a year are considered chronic homeless. On a daily basis his office works with various agencies who perform street outreach and try to link the homeless with the appropriate resources. He said the Federal Government has put a considerable amount of effort in to ending veteran homelessness. Every year his office performs a bi-annual homeless count and the last count in January of 2013 showed approximately 3,500 homeless either on the street or in shelters and about 1,000 chronic homeless. He said that they have a great deal of cooperation from the Police Department, Fire Department, Parks, Recreation and Marine and non-profit agencies, congregations and people in general who are concerned about the problem and want to be part of the solution. They also work with regional partners around the county to address homelessness, because homelessness is not just a Long Beach issue.

Commissioner Schachter asked what is considered legal; i.e., where can they group. He explained that the homeless congregate around the restrooms in LBSM because there is an outlet there and they like to plug in and charge their cellphones. Sergeant Lewis, LBPD, explained the difference between what is legal; i.e., walking around the marina during the day, and other illegal activities; i.e., pushing shopping carts, loitering, camping on the beaches and in the parks, building fires on the beach, etc. He said if it is an emergency situation, call 911, or the non-emergency police line and/or email the Police Resource Officer (PRO) West Division (west of Cherry Street) at: lbpdwest@longbeach.gov or the East Division (east of Cherry Street) at: lbpdwest@longbeach.gov. He said that he will report back to the MAC at next month's meeting on how the LBPD is doing with their project assignment and homeless on the beach. He also said that crimereports.com is the website that posts crime statistics in detail. He said that crime is at an all-time low.

- Elvira asked if the MAC would consider flipping the Operations and Facilities Committee meeting times and have the Facilities meeting begin at 3:30 p.m. and the Operations meeting begin at 4:30 p.m. (every second Wednesday of each month) She said that this will enable Eric Lopez, Tidelands CIP Officer, the ability to attend the meetings. The Commission agreed.
- Commissioner Hogenson asked about the Marine Bureau waiving fees for the upcoming Panthers at Sea event. Elvira Hallinan explained that the Panthers at Sea group went before the City Council and the City Attorney stated that it is not appropriate for the Marine Bureau to waive fees, however, Councilmembers Delong and Lowenthal graciously agreed to pay for the two days.

BUREAU MANAGER'S REPORT

Marina Operations Report

- Elvira Hallinan gave the report on the slip status for the month of April. She said that LBSM has been very busy with 39 new vessels coming in. She said that most boatowners who cancelled their slips were selling their vessels.

Maintenance Operations Report

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

- He reported on personnel staffing and said that interviews were held for the vacant General Maintenance Supervisor position and that there are two top candidates who will be interviewed again next month. The Maintenance Assistant list has come available and interviews will begin very soon. He said they have also been allowed to hire for the Electrician's position and that the General Maintenance Assistant position's list should be coming out soon. He said that they are rapidly working at getting these positions filled.
- Alfredo Fernandez commended the Maintenance crew on the great job they are doing at keeping Basins 2 and 3 afloat.

LBFD/Marine Safety Report

Randy Foster, Chief, Marine Safety/Lifeguards, gave the Marine Safety status report for the month of April.

- Lifeguards tryouts were held at Junipero Street on Saturday and 31 individuals will be training to become Lifeguards.
- Chief Foster spoke to the issue of staffing on the rescue boats. He said that the LBFD is trying to mitigate a training issue for the Lifeguards regarding firefighting capabilities on the rescue boats. He said that the end result is that Lifeguard staffing will not change but will be enhanced with the staffing of an additional fire fighter/paramedic 24/7. He said that the firefighters will do the firefighting aspect of the job and the Lifeguards will handle the Lifeguard functions. This will be funded through the Tidelands Fund and not the Marina Fund. The long view is to train the Lifeguards and send them through the fire academy. This new procedure should be in place by the start of the summer season. He said that the Lifeguards will be there to rescue the firefighters in case they fall in the water and that Lifeguards will no longer be issued turn-out gear.

LBPD/Marine Patrol Report

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

- Sergeant Prentice reported that no significant crime trends, vandalism or break-ins were reported in the last couple of months. He said that the LBSM fuel dock area is being monitored very closely for problems with transients.

- Long Beach Grand Prix weekend was a success with no major complaints on parking issues or security.
- Terrorism training is continuing for Marine Patrol officers through Homeland Security. Hopefully, by the end of the year all Marine Patrol officers will be trained and certified through Homeland Security as terrorism liaison officers.
- Lieutenant Lewis reported that Marine Patrol is down four officers. Two of those positions should be filled within the next two months. Lieutenant Lewis introduced Joseph Schlobohm as the new Sergeant for Marine Patrol.

Executive MAC

All items covered.

Operations Committee

No meeting held.

Facilities Committee

No meeting held.

- Chairman DuRee reported that Eric Lopez, Tidelands CIP Officer, gave a briefing regarding Dock 10, which is under construction and will be finished by mid-July.
- The Leeway Sailing Center Project is at the Coastal Commission for approval of concept, however there are some issues dealing with the rising sea. The Coastal Commission has stated that the building needs to be built higher so that one hundred years from now the building will not be under water. They are hoping to break ground in January of 2015.
- The Bike Path Rebuild Project has been approved by the Coastal Commission and should go out to bid this summer with construction to begin in October of 2015. The concept of splitting the lanes has been approved.
- Chairman DuRee reported regarding the Bluff Erosion Project that the City Council stopped the project and has said that no continuation of the project shall go on for 45 days, at which time they will study whether or not the application of the concrete is the most appropriate technique to ensure that it will not crumble during an earthquake. They are concerned about the appearance of the material itself.

Finance Committee

No meeting held.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Alfredo Fernandez asked about the through cooling system leaving Alamitos Bay. The City Manager's office is in charge of this project and the Marine Bureau will work with them. This is on a priority list for the new manager.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. The next meeting is set for June 12, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. at the Long Beach Yacht Club.

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