

CITY OF MORRO BAY
HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD
SYNOPSIS MINUTES

The regular meeting of the City of Morro Bay Harbor Advisory Board was held Thursday, March 3, 2011 at 7:00 PM in the Veteran's Hall, 209 Surf ST, Morro Bay, California.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Members: Brett Cunningham
 Mandy Davis
 Gene Doughty
 Jeff Eckles
 Bill Luffee
 Lynn Meissen
 Jim Phillips
 Staff: Susan Lichtenbaum, Harbor Business Manager
 Polly Curtis, Office Assistant

II. MINUTES

Ms. Meissen moved the February 3, 2011 Harbor Advisory Board minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Luffee and carried unanimously.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

IV-1. License Agreement Between the City of Morro Bay and South Bay Hookers

Ms. Lichtenbaum briefed the Board on the background of the local baiting service called South Bay Hookers. She said they have been providing a baiting service for local fishermen since 2009, and do all their work in a portion of the fisherman's storage area. They provide jobs to 7-15 people per month during the fishing season. Ms. Lichtenbaum said the Harbor Department is proposing a one-year license agreement allowing the use of the portion of the fenced property with a monthly rent of \$50 for one year. The agreement also requires that the business abide by all local and state regulations and obtain liability insurance naming the City as additional insured. The license agreement must be authorized by the City Council. Discussion by the Board followed.

Motion: Mr. Cunningham moved to recommend to City Council approval of the Harbor Department License Agreement with South Bay Hookers. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Eckles, and carried unanimously.

IV-2. Update on Newspaper Racks

Ms. Lichtenbaum briefed the Board on the background and previous motions by the Board on the newspaper racks item. She said the Board's motion from their November 2007 meeting was given to City Council who will be reviewing their list of priorities at the March 8, 2011 meeting.

Chairman Phillips reviewed the history of the item for new Board members, and presented four slides of the news racks along the waterside of the Embarcadero. He said of the 10 racks located near the South T-Pier, only 2 hold newspapers, the other 8 hold advertisements. The same holds true at the location near Giovanni's Fish Market. His research shows 92 news racks located from near the Coast Guard building to the State Park Marina.

Chairman Phillips said he researched ordinances that were passed in 22 cities in 2009, and gave that information to the City Attorney. He said the City Attorney recommends drafting of an ordinance defining specifics in order to avoid litigation due to the First Amendment.

Mr. Eckles said the mayor and some new City Council members have expressed their desire to clean up the waterfront; he thought consolidating news racks would directly effect that vision of the waterfront. Mr. Luffee said he believes the City should be able to move or consolidate the racks without taking so many years to draft an ordinance first. Discussion by the Board on requiring permits for news racks, charging vendors a percentage for the use of space, and the removal of the racks when the Harbor boardwalk was constructed.

Motion: Mr. Eckles moved to recommend that City Council make the draft ordinance of the newspaper racks along the Embarcadero a high priority. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Doughty and carried unanimously.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

V-1. Harbor Department Status Report

Ms. Lichtenbaum briefed the Board on the following topics:

Clean Boating Practices

C-MANC

Harbor Patrol Statistics for 2010

Fourth of July Fundraisers

City of Morro Bay Beach Lifeguard Academy

Snowy Plover Season

Council Actions

Upcoming Events:

VI. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Mr. Eckles said he is on the Fourth of July Fundraiser Board, a nonprofit/nonpaid group. He appreciates all the support, and hopes to see everyone at the Harbor Hut Luau on March 20, 2011. Ms. Meissen said the NEP Dock Walkers Training will be held at the Yacht Club clubhouse.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Apr: Prioritization of Infrastructure Needs

Presentation of Central Coast Women for Fisheries Quilt Raffle

Presentation of Dock Walkers Training Program

Review of Harbor Rules & Regulations on Fish Unloading

May: FY11-12 Budget Review

Review of Launch Ramp Parking

Tentative:

Recreational Boating Discussion of Enforcement and Implementation of State and Federal Mandates

State Park Marina Update

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Submitted by,

Polly Curtis
Harbor Department