

CITY OF MORRO BAY
HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD
SYNOPSIS MINUTES

The regular meeting of the City of Morro Bay Harbor Advisory Board was held Thursday, June 2, 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:	Eric Endersby, Harbor Operations Manager Polly Curtis, Office Assistant

II. MINUTES

Mr. Eckles moved the April 7, 2011 Harbor Advisory Board minutes be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cunningham and carried unanimously.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

IV-1. Presentation on NOAA FishWatch Program by Charles Villafana

Mr. Charles Villafana of the National Marine Fisheries Service in Long Beach, gave a slide presentation on the FishWatch program which is geared to help consumers make informed decisions about the seafood they purchase at the fish market or in restaurants. He said the website is a communications tool, where facts on sustainable fisheries, and information for consumers through safety consumption guidelines are available. Mr. Villafana said the website, www.fishwatch.gov will be re-launched this July in a new, more user-friendly format. He said NOAA is providing the most accurate and up-to-date information on sustainable seafood available in the United States.

Mr. Villafana answered questions from the Board and the audience on topics such as sustainable fisheries, and farmed fish. Chairman Phillips thanked Mr. Villafana for his presentation and good information sources.

IV-2. Presentation on Community Fishing Association by Rick Algert

Mr. Rick Algert, former Harbor Director, said he has retired and is now working as a temporary employee with the City of Morro Bay. He updated the Board on The Nature Conservancy (TNC) grant with the City to address Community Fishing Associations and the divestiture of groundfish permits. Mr. Algert reviewed the letter sent by the City of Morro Bay to the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC) on forming Community Fishing Associations and quota banks. He said the goal is to acquire TNC's trawl quota and anchor it in the community via a Community Fishing Association. The hope is to stabilize access to groundfish for the local community.

Mr. Algert said he will be attending a six-day PFMC meeting in Spokane, Washington next week, but will be available after that to review the results with the public and the Board. Chairman Phillips opened discussion to the public, and several people discussed various topics.

Mr. Jeremiah O'Brien, president of the Morro Bay Commercial Fisherman's Organization, and Mr. Chris Kubiak, CEO of the Central Coast Sustainable Groundfish Association, also spoke about the letter and Mr. Algert's participation in the upcoming meeting in Spokane. Members of the Board asked questions of Mr. Algert. Mr. Cunningham said it was an excellent letter, but it does not reflect any of TNC's actions to date. Chairman Phillips said he hopes the end result is fair and equitable for all concerned.

IV-3. Preliminary Harbor Fund Budget for FY11-12

Mr. Endersby briefed the Board on the draft budget. He explained the two new divisions in the budget for next fiscal year: Lifeguards, and Infrastructure Repair/Maintenance. He said staff recommends a 1.3% increase in the Master Fee Schedule, based on the annual change in CPI along with an annual Launch Ramp Parking fee of \$100. Mr. Endersby reviewed the decision to raise the Office Assistant IV position from half-time to three-quarter time. He asked the Board for any questions on the attached Budget Worksheet Report for FY11-12.

The Board asked Mr. Endersby questions about CPI percentage, bad debts write offs, and accounting for financial audits. The Board concurred with the preliminary Budget.

IV-4. Cancellation of July 7, 2011 Meeting

Motion: Mr. Doughty moved to cancel the July 7, 2011 Harbor Advisory Board meeting. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Luffee and carried unanimously.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

V-1. Harbor Department Status Report

Mr. Endersby briefed the Board on the following topics:

Yaquina Dredging the Entrance Channel
Fish Fry Benefit
State Park Marina Dredging and Kayak Launch Ramp
Summer Beach Lifeguard Coverage
Morro Bay Triathlon
Morro Bay Music Festival
Fourth of July
Special Olympics Torch Run
K9 Walk-a-Thon

VI. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Mr. Eckles thanked the community for their support and donations of the Fourth of July event. He said there has been a good response and the goal has almost been reached. Chairman Phillips thanked the City Council for approving the removal of the news racks along the Embarcadero, and said it has greatly improved the appearance. He said the old Coast Guard rollover boat looks interesting at its location in the Front Street parking lot, which is the future site of the Maritime Museum.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Phillips requested a report from Rick Algert again after he attends next week's fisheries meeting; the Board concurred and Mr. Algert agreed to do so. Ms. Meissen requested an update on the Liveboard Ordinance and the Board concurred. The Board asked staff for status on the Embarcadero Lease Sites.

**Aug: State Park Marina Update
Liveboard Ordinance Update
Report from Rick Algert on Fisheries Meeting
Embarcadero Lease Sites Status Report**

Future: Review of Launch Ramp Parking Permit After One Year

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Submitted by,

Polly Curtis
Harbor Department