

CITY OF MORRO BAY
HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD
SYNOPSIS MINUTES

The regular meeting of the City of Morro Bay Harbor Advisory Board was held Thursday, December 1, 2011 at 7:00 PM in the Veteran's Hall, 209 Surf ST, Morro Bay, California.

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. MINUTES

Ms. Meissen moved the November 3, 2011 Harbor Advisory Board minutes be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Doughty and carried unanimously.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Carla Borchard, City Councilmember, let the public know tomorrow night, Friday, December 2nd, is the Luminaria Festival, which begins at the City Park, and there are children's dance presentations at Centennial Park. She said Council will be discussing possibly improving beach access from the Rock parking lot after the first of the year. Also, Council will be looking at vessel non-payment of dockage fees.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

IV-1. Presentation on the Proposed PG&E Seismic Studies

Mr. John Shoals, Senior Government Relations Rep for PG&E, gave an overview to the Board on the proposed seismic studies off the Central Coast, saying that in November 2009 PG&E at Diablo Canyon applied for the license renewal, but the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) deferred the license until seismic surveys were completed and a permit issued by the California State Lands Commission. He listed approximately a dozen other agencies who will be involved in the permitting process.

Mr. Chris Vardas, Senior Land Planner for PG&E, presented detailed slides showing the proposed onshore and offshore seismic survey areas, as well as all the equipment, vessels, and types of surveys that would be performed with the estimated timeframe from September to December 2012.

Mr. Jeremiah O'Brien, President of the Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization (MBCFO) made a statement that the Organization adamantly opposes the seismic activity proposed by PG&E on the Central Coast, and will be making this statement to City Council as well. He said the fishermen are mainly concerned with the bait fish in the area. He said it would be impossible to assess the long-term damage to fisheries, and does not believe it will be quantifiable.

Mr. Shoals said the PUC/NRC is requiring the seismic studies prior to Diablo Canyon applying for their license renewal that would extend the license from 2024 to 2044. He said PG&E is under no false illusion that a permit will actually be issued to perform these studies. More will be determined after the EIR which is scheduled for release in early January, followed by two public workshops on mitigation, and marine impacts including commercial and recreational fishing.

Discussion by the Board. Chairman Phillips said he hoped all groups can work together as he knows the importance of the local fisheries but also of the public's safety from any power plant accidents due to a seismic disaster.

IV-2. Presentation on the Morro Bay 2011 Commercial Fisheries Economic Impact Report

Mr. Henry Pontarelli of Lisa Wise Consulting reviewed the Morro Bay 2011 Commercial Fisheries Economic Impact Report for the Board. He said this report was funded by the Central Coast Joint Cable/Fisheries Liaison Committee through a grant obtained by the Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization, and a link to the report is on lisawiseconsulting.com. Mr. Pontarelli explained the focus of three graphs, one of which showed 160% economic growth in the local fishing industry between 2007-2010.

The Board asked for details from Mr. Jeremiah O'Brien, President of the MBCFO. Mr. Eckles asked what his main conclusions are from this report. Mr. O'Brien said mainly this shows the local fishing industry hit bottom in 2007 and there has been a steady economic increase since then, and the industry is doing pretty well. He hopes this will bring attention to our elected officials, county supervisors, etc. that "we are still here and still working." He said he believes the economic increase will continue for 2011.

IV-3. Cancellation of the January 5, 2012 Harbor Advisory Board Meeting

The Board discussed the option of cancelling their January meeting. Mr. Cunningham moved to cancel the January 5, 2012 Harbor Advisory Board meeting. The Motion was seconded by Ms. Meissen and carried unanimously.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

V-1. Harbor Department Status Report

Ms. Lichtenbaum briefed the Board on the following topics:

Lighted Boat Parade

Hunting Season

Caroling Cops

Polar Bear Dip

Winter Bird Festival

Winter Storms

Annual Slip Qualification

City Hall Closed for Fumigation Fri-Mon Dec 2nd

City Council Dec 13th Agenda:

M&M Refrigeration Lease

GAFCO Lease

Sea One Solutions Lease

VI. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Mr. Eckles asked Staff if the Harbor Department would consider presenting an annual outreach program on water safety to the local high schools and elementary schools. Mr. Endersby and Ms. Lichtenbaum said the Harbor Department does go to all schools whenever any school requests a presentation, and also hosts the Junior Lifeguard Program every summer. They said it would be possible to contact the schools to let them know of availability, or to consider a regular annual program. Ms. Lichtenbaum invited Mr. Eckles to discuss this with them at any time.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**February: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair
Morro Rock Beach Access Improvement
Discussion of Non-Payment of Dockage Fees**

**Future: MBNEP Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan Update
Review and Recommendation on Renewal of a License Agreement with
South Bay Hookers**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Submitted by,

Polly Curtis
Harbor Department