



AGENDA NO: A-2

MEETING DATE: October 1, 2015

CITY OF MORRO BAY

SPECIAL HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD

SYNOPSIS MINUTES

The special meeting of the City of Morro Bay Harbor Advisory Board was held Wednesday, September 15, 2015 at 6:00 PM in the Veteran's Hall, 209 Surf ST, Morro Bay, California.

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

Present: Members: Tom Hafer (MBCFO Alternate Rep)
 Gene Doughty
 Bill Luffee
 Neal Maloney
 Dana McClish
 Lynn Meissen
 Ron Reisner
 Eric Endersby, Harbor Director
 Polly Curtis, Office Assistant

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA ITEMS:

- I. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED CHUMASH HERITAGE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY NOMINATION AND POSSIBLE HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD POSITION AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE MORRO BAY CITY COUNCIL
<https://youtu.be/uztA3oWpx-o?t=2m25s>

Mr. Endersby reviewed the history of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act which was first enacted in 1972. He summarized a few of the 16 attachments on the topic, saying there are currently four National Marine Sanctuaries in California: Greater Farallones, Cordell Bank, Monterey Bay, and Channel Islands.

Mr. Endersby explained the current "NOAA Sanctuary Nomination Process Guide," which lists the submittal process in detail in addition to listing the "National Significance Criteria and Management Considerations" that all must be met. He said the seven consideration items emphasize describing community support. Also included in the attachments to this agenda item is the Morro Bay City Council Resolution 18-12, stating the City Council was in opposition to local sanctuary proposals due to fishery regulations; this was the most recent Resolution, passed in 2012.

Mr. Endersby asked for input from the Board and the public in order to make a recommendation, if any, for the City Council to consider at their September 22, 2015 meeting for a possible Council position on the proposed Chumash Sanctuary.

PUBLIC COMMENT RE: ITEM ON THE AGENDA

<https://youtu.be/uztA3oWpx-o?t=13m47s>

The following people spoke in opposition to the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary:

Butch Powers
Dave Kirk
Fred Arnoldi
Lori French
Trudi O'Brien
Peter Griffin
Jeff French
Steve Rebuck

Opponents of sanctuary designation claimed sanctuaries negative effects on commercial and recreational fishing, including negative economic impacts, an overabundance of government regulation with no further layers needed, adequate fishery and other protectionist regulation already in place, the anomaly of the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant and its effects on the ocean ecosystem being in a proposed marine sanctuary and loss of local control as reasons for opposing sanctuary designation.

The following people spoke in support of the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary:

David Georgie
Carol Georgie

Proponents of sanctuary designation claimed a sanctuary's ability to protect wildlife, ensure water quality protections, prohibit gas and oil development or sea floor disturbance, prohibit acoustic testing, increased economic activity and the proposed Chumash Heritage sanctuary would not affect fishing or harbors as reasons for supporting sanctuary designation.

Discussion by the Board. Mr. Reisner addressed a series of questions to the authorized representative of the applicant for the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary, although no representative was present at this Special Harbor Advisory Board meeting.

MOTION:

<https://youtu.be/uztA3oWpx-o?t=1h1m46s>

Ms. Meissen moved that the Harbor Advisory Board recommend to City Council to not change their former attitude on a local sanctuary, and regarding the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary nomination, that Council continues taking a negative stance because members of the community are not in favor. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Hafer, and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.
Submitted by,

Polly Curtis
Harbor Department