



**AGENDA NO: A-1**

**MEETING DATE: December 3, 2015**

**CITY OF MORRO BAY**

**HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD**

**SYNOPSIS MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the City of Morro Bay Harbor Advisory Board was held Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 6:00 PM in the Veteran's Hall, 209 Surf ST, Morro Bay, California.

**ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER**

Present:           Members:     Alan Alward (MBCFO 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**

**CHAIR AND ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS**

<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=1m55s>

Mr. Reisner said the Morro Bay Community Foundation will present "Morro Bay Sings Motown" on Saturday, November 7, at the Community Center from 5:00-9:00 PM. He said proceeds go toward assisting kids financially for organized sports activities in Morro Bay.

Mr. Luffee said Movie Night at the Rock will take place on November 13. Gates open at 5:30 PM; movie begins at 6:30 PM for two classic surf films. The event is sponsored by Friends of the Morro Bay Harbor Department, and profits will go toward purchasing a beach wheelchair and rescue surfboards.

Mr. Doughty said he has finished the last piling at Morro Bay Landing; he said the process for this project began back in 2004.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=6m15s>

Ms. Tina Hoppe, former restaurant owner, presented photos of unclean public restroom conditions along the Embarcadero and at Morro Rock. During her slideshow, she said the restrooms must be cleaned much more often, or possibly closed down and have outhouses brought in.

Mr. Homer Alexander supported Ms. Hoppe's statements, adding that the Harbor Department pays a cost allocation to the General Fund for maintenance work, and should ask for the level of service to be improved. He said another option might be to hire alternative suppliers to clean the public restrooms.

Mr. John Gillespie, owner of the Wind Walker requested a reduced rate for commercial fishermen docking at the City's public T-Piers, saying he has paid much more than slip holders over the many years he has been fishing out of Morro Bay.

**A. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A-1 MINUTES**

<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=16m6s>

Mr. Doughty moved the October 1, 2015 Harbor Advisory Board minutes be approved as submitted. The Motion was seconded by Ms. Meissen and carried unanimously.

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=54m24s>

**B-1 Harbor Department Status Report**

Mr. Endersby briefed the Board on the following topics:

**Recent City Council Action**

**Recent Department Activity:**

**Sunken Vessel, Oct. 7**

**Diesel Spill, Oct. 23**

**Meteorologist John Lindsey Presentation to Harbor Patrol**

**El Nino Preparation Plans by Harbor Patrol**

**Upcoming Events:**

**Morro Bay Triathlon, Nov. 8**

**Movie Night at the Rock, Nov. 13**

**Advisory Board Recognition, Nov. 16**

**Tall Ships Lady Washington & Hawaiian Chieftain, Dec 2-7**

**Lighted Boat Parade, Dec 5**

**C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**C-1 Update from the Marine Services Facility/Boatyard Ad-Hoc Committee on Committee's Recent Activities**

<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=1h16m1s>

Mr. Endersby said on November 13, he and the Committee and others will meet with RRM Design for a study session in Morro Bay to study possible boatyard/haulout layout options in the city's "Triangle" parking lot. He said this is an information-gathering session; then the group will go to the RRM office in San Luis for a design exercise.

**C-2 Update from the Financing Budget Ad-Hoc Committee on Committee's Recent Activities**

<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=1h20m28s>

Mr. Maloney said the Ad-Hoc Committee plan to meet to discuss short-term goals soon.

**C-3 Reconsideration of a Slip Sublease Rate Discount for Qualified Commercial Fishing Vessels on the Commercial Slip Waiting List**

<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=1h21m26s>

Mr. Endersby reviewed the topic for the Board, saying if there is a recommendation by the Board it will be brought to Council during the Master Fee setting process next spring. He gave the current slip holder rate and slip sublease rate, and explained the process for obtaining a place on the slip waiting list.

Mr. Endersby described the types of vessels now holding a spot on the commercial slip waiting list. He said there are only a few large commercial slips which tend to have a slow turnover, and so a vessel of 50-feet or more in length could potentially have a much longer waiting period.

Slip availability solely depends upon a fisherman vacating his slip, which could be many months, if not years.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. John Gillespie, captain and owner of the 66-foot vessel Wind Walker, said due to the size of his vessel he believes it is unlikely he will ever obtain a commercial slip, and he asked for the slip sublease to rate be the same for fishing vessels as the rate for commercial slip holders. Chair Luffee said this is not the topic on the current Agenda, but the Board will discuss this as a possible topic during Future Agenda Items.

Discussion by the Board.

**MOTION:** Mr. Reisner moved to recommend to City Council that during the Master Fee setting process in the spring of 2016, a moorage rate of \$6.50 per foot of boat length be applied to vessels meeting the City's definition for commercial fishing vessels, if the owners of those vessels are residents of San Luis Obispo County and are at the time on the City's commercial slip waiting list. The Motion was seconded by Ms. Meissen and carried unanimously.

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**D-1 National Estuary Program State of the Eelgrass Report and Consideration of Formation of a Harbor Advisory Board Ad-Hoc Committee to Address Eelgrass Mitigation Policy and Eelgrass Banking**  
<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=16m55s>

The Board agreed by consensus that this item would be heard first, prior to B-1 Public Hearings.

Mr. Endersby introduced Ms. Adrienne Harris, Executive Director, and Ms. Jen Nix, Restoration Projects Manager, of the Morro Bay National Estuary Program.

Ms. Harris and Ms. Nix gave the Board a presentation on the history and current state of eelgrass in the estuary, and the numbers looked bleak. Ms. Nix said the NEP will be attending the eelgrass restoration conference in Oregon where one session will be dedicated to Morro Bay. Ms. Harris said the MBNEP is looking for resources for projects, including seed-bag deployment and research by Cal Poly faculty. She said members of the NEP would be happy to be at the table of an Ad-Hoc Committee, if one is formed.

Discussion and questions by the Board to Ms. Harris and Ms. Nix.

**MOTION:** Mr. Reisner moved to establish an Eelgrass Ad-Hoc Committee, whose initial charge is to educate itself and the Harbor Advisory Board concerning present and planned eelgrass regulations that have the potential for impacting existing business operations in Morro Bay, as well as business development in Morro Bay, as well as becoming informed regarding potential eelgrass mitigation policies. Further, if they are willing, that Harbor Advisory Board members Gene Doughty, Lynn Meissen and Neal Maloney serve on that Committee, with Committee selecting its Chairman, and with the Committee authorized to incorporate into its body or as advisors, any party who would materially benefit the Committee's activities. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Alward and carried unanimously.

**D-2 Consideration of Formation of a Harbor Advisory Board Ad-Hoc Committee to Address the Implications of National Marine Sanctuary Establishment in Local Waters**  
<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=1h49m10s>

Discussion by the Board.

**MOTION:** Mr. Reisner moved to establish a Marine Sanctuary Ad-Hoc Committee, whose initial charge is to educate itself and the Harbor Advisory Board concerning the National Marine

Sanctuaries Act and related issues, as they relate to a possible marine sanctuary off the coast of Morro Bay. Such education to include elements of the Act and related issues, which have potential local economic impact, and have potential sport fishing and commercial fishing local impact. Further, that the Committee be authorized to incorporate into its body, or as advisors, any party who would materially benefit the Committee's activities. The Motion was seconded by Mr. McClish and carried unanimously.

Harbor Advisory Board members Bill Luffee, Alan Alward, and Ron Reisner volunteered as members of the Marine Sanctuary Ad-Hoc Committee.

**E. DECLARATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

<https://youtu.be/WWM3PvqL1Gk?t=1h58m37s>

**Future:**

- Friends of the Harbor Department Activities
- Conditions of Restrooms on the Embarcadero
- Review of Commercial Fishing Vessel Rates on City Docks
- Status of State Park Marina and City's Involvement
- Coast Guard Building Location Plans
- Inspecting Marine Sanitation Devices on All Vessels in Morro Bay Harbor
- Planning for Power Plant Property

**F. ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by,

Polly Curtis  
Harbor Department