



AGENDA NO: A-1

MEETING DATE: February 4, 2016

**CITY OF MORRO BAY**

**HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD**

**SYNOPSIS MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the City of Morro Bay Harbor Advisory Board was held Thursday, January 7, 2016 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/aghOARKze94?t=1m56s>

Mr. Doughty reminded the public about El Nino storms, saying boaters need to secure their mooring pennant lines.

Chair Luffee said the 2016 goal-setting meeting of the Friends of the Harbor Department will be held on January 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM at the Morro Bay Yacht Club. He also reminded the public to take a look at the website, which outlines opportunities to get involved in 2016. The website is [www.friendsoftmbhd.org](http://www.friendsoftmbhd.org)

Mr. Reisner emphasized the importance of boaters to check their bilge pumps now that the winter storms are here.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=4m5s>

Mr. Don Doubledee, Executive Director of the Harbor Festival, said the event in October was totally reinvented and was very successful. In 2016 the Harbor Festival will again have free admission, local vendors only including fishing groups, and be in partnership with the City, the Tourism Board and the Harbor Department; also the Harbor Fest relies on sponsorship support. He said the local Maritime Museum Association was the recipient of \$10,000 from Harbor Fest proceeds. He thanked all participants, and said three members of the Board of Directors have stepped down; so he is looking for three new members. Mr. McClish thanked Mr. Doubledee, and said people enjoyed the First Annual Harbor Fest Cup sailing event that ran in conjunction with the Harbor Festival.

**A. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A-1 MINUTES**

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=8m22s>

Mr. Alward moved the December 3, 2015 Harbor Advisory Board minutes be approved as submitted. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Doughty and carried unanimously.

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS, REPORTS, AND APPEARANCES**

**B-1 Harbor Department Status Report**

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=9m5s>

Mr. Endersby briefed the Board on the following topics:

**El Nino & Surf Rescues Jan 7**

**Coast Guard Safety Zone Establishment**

**Recent Department Activity**

Harbor Patrol and Coast Guard Hazmat Training, Dec 9

Harbor Patrol Vessel 3868

**Friends of the Harbor Department**

Next Meeting Jan 21 at 6PM at MB Yacht Club

Beach Wheelchair and JR Lifeguards Rescue Boards

**Recent City Council Activity**

License Agreements for GAFCO and Harbor Hut

Lease Site 65-66/65W-66W

**Fishery News**

Continuing Dungeness Crab Closure

**Morro Bay National Estuary Program**

**Upcoming Events**

Winter Bird Festival Jan 15-18

**Past Events**

Lady Washington Dec 1-8

Lighted Boat Parade Dec 5

Creek Cleanup Homeless Camps Dec 9-10

Polar Bear Dip Jan 1

NOAA Marine Sanctuary Meeting Jan 6

**C. BUSINESS ITEMS**

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

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=39m17s>

Mr. McClish reviewed some of the Ad-Hoc Committee's activities, including the Mini-Master Plan and council's approval of \$10,000 to RRM Design. He also showed the Board a video of a 24-foot sailboat being transported on a "mule" or dolly on the Santa Barbara breakwater from the boat storage yard to the jib crane, a process which took about five to ten minutes. He said if Morro Bay included this type of mule with the boatyard, it would assist many sailboat owners to launch, whereas now it takes nearly all day at the launch ramp.

Discussion by the Board including further recommendations for boatyard locations. Mr. McClish said it is a bit late in the game to be suggesting other locations, but if there is anyone out there who is developing another plan for an alternate Marine Facility, please let the Ad-Hoc Committee know as soon as possible.

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

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=47m57s>

Mr. Endersby said the mid-year budget review for the last six months is due to the Finance Director now; he will then meet again with the Ad-Hoc Committee.

**C-3 Update from the Eelgrass Ad-Hoc Committee on Committee's Recent Activities**

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=49m>

Ms. Meissen said the Committee has met once, and the members are: Mr. Maloney, and Mr. Doughty, and herself; she said the Committee established intermediate goals:

1. Investigate eelgrass mitigation projects in Morro Bay, in California, and nationally.
2. Become familiar with the eelgrass bank project in Newport Harbor.
3. Become familiar with any research and study projects being planned or completed in Morro Bay which can best encourage eelgrass.

Ms. Meissen said the Committee plans to meet with the NEP's eelgrass expert, Jen Nix, to begin this educational process to figure out where these projects currently stand, and to start gathering the data.

**C-4 Update from the Marine Sanctuaries Ad-Hoc Committee on Committee's Recent Activities**

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=51m54s>

Mr. Reisner reviewed the initial report, saying the Ad-Hoc Committee was formed for the purpose of educating itself, the Harbor Advisory Board, and then the City Council about the Federal Marine Sanctuaries Act and what the Act might mean for a hypothetical marine sanctuary to be established off the coast of Morro Bay. He said the areas of study of marine sanctuaries have been divided among the members as follows:

1. Mr. Alward: Potential regulatory nature.
2. Mr. Luffee: Local and regional economic aspects.
3. Mr. Reisner: Local, regional and state control issues.

Mr. Reisner said the Committee is studying these areas, and will pass on to the Board and Council what they learn. He reviewed in detail the meeting of January 6, 2016, held by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on the National Marine Sanctuaries Act and the purpose and function of marine sanctuaries.

Discussion by members of the Ad-Hoc Committee and the Board.

Mr. Reisner said the Ad-Hoc Committee recommends the local public information process regarding marine sanctuaries in general continue, and that it is done specifically through the organization of one or more additional public forums that feature representatives from California communities, harbors, ports, regional organizations, regional agencies, industry groups and native groups who have experienced living within an established sanctuary for a length of time.

Further discussion by the Board.

**C-5 Status Update of the State Park Marina and Discussion and Input on Possible Dredge Material Disposal Options**

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=1h29m29s>

Mr. Endersby reviewed the background and status of the State Park Marina and Operating Agreement; he said he believes the dredge material disposal issue must be resolved by identifying a cost-effective location before the City further commits to the renovation project. He asked the Board for input on the following:

1. Engaging a consultant to pursue regulatory approval for ocean or other aquatic disposal, including the existing nearshore disposal site or an in-bay confined aquatic disposal site.
2. Researching the use of dredge material as upland fill in nearby projects such as the new water reclamation facility, or the waste water treatment plant facility when it becomes abandoned, or the power plant site.
3. Researching the option of closing a portion of the marina to receive dredge material in order to preserve the rest of the marina to be dredged.

Chair Luffee opened the item to Public Comment:  
There was no public comment.

Discussion by the Board.

**MOTION:** Mr. Reisner moved to recommend to City Council that the City engage consultancy relative to obtaining regulatory approval for cost-effective ocean or aquatic disposal of dredge spoils, and/or determine the practical and economic feasibility of utilizing dredge spoils as landfill. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Doughty and carried unanimously.

Further discussion by the Board and Mr. Endersby.

**C-6 Election of Harbor Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair**

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=2h10m39s>

**MOTION:** Mr. Doughty moved to nominate Mr. Luffee as Chair of the Harbor Advisory Board. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Alward and carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** Mr. Reisner moved to nominate Mr. McClish as Vice Chair of the Harbor Advisory Board. Mr. McClish declined. No second or vote, and the Motion died.

**MOTION:** Ms. Meissen moved to nominate Mr. Reisner as Vice Chair of the Harbor Advisory Board. The Motion was seconded by Mr. McClish and carried unanimously.

**D. DECLARATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

<https://youtu.be/aghOARKze94?t=2h12m22s>

**Future:**

Fish and Wildlife Hunting Regulations in the Back Bay  
Coast Guard Building Location Plans  
Condition of Restrooms on the Embarcadero  
Inspecting Marine Sanitation Devices on All Vessels in Morro Bay Harbor

**E. ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Submitted by,



Polly Curtis  
Harbor Department