

CITY OF MORRO BAY
HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD
SYNOPSIS MINUTES

The regular meeting of the City of Morro Bay Harbor Advisory Board was held Thursday, February 1, 2007 at 7 PM in the Veteran's Hall, 209 Surf ST, Morro Bay, California.

I. ROLL CALL

Present Members: Rodger Anderson
 Gene Doughty
 Ed Ewing
 Tom Laurie
 Michele Leary
 Lynn Meissen
 Jim Phillips
 Staff: Rick Algert, Harbor Director
 Polly Curtis, Office Assistant

Mr. Algert introduced the Board members, and suggested the election of Chair and Vice Chair, **Item IV-1**, should take place prior to the rest of the meeting.

IV-1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Ewing nominated Mr. Anderson for Chairman and Mr. Phillips for Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Doughty and carried unanimously.

II. MINUTES

Mr. Phillips moved the December 7, 2006 minutes be approved with the correction that Gerry Luhr's name should be spelled with a "G" not a "J." The motion was seconded by Mr. Doughty and carried unanimously.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

IV-2. Presentation by Central Coast Women for Fisheries

Ms. Bonnie Tognazzini and Ms. Barbara Stickel presented a Power Point presentation on their new organization, Central Coast Women for Fisheries (CCWFO). Ms. Tognazzini welcomed Ms. Michele Leary and Ms. Susan Lichtenbaum as their newest members. She listed the names of the current president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer, and said the CCWFO is a local non-profit organization, whose goal is to foster and promote a sense of the living culture of our fishing communities. She thanked the Cable Liaison Committee for funding.

Ms. Tognazzini reviewed the numerous ways the organization plans to foster our community; the goals of the organization; the plans for the education committee, such as clean boating education and fishing heritage scholarships; plans for fund raising such as an annual crab feed; and the creation of a Memorial to Fishermen's Wives.

Mr. Doughty asked if they had location selected for the memorial. Ms. Stickel said they hoped to place it near Morro Rock. Mr. Doughty recommended Target Rock. Ms. Tognazzini said that would be ideal, but wherever the organization chooses to place it, the memorial will be beautiful.

Mr. Phillips asked what will be the first activity of the organization. Ms. Stickel said a date has not been set for the first activity as yet, possibly next fall, and the focus would be on community education. Mr. Ewing said he knows most of the people involved in this group and has great confidence in them. Ms. Meissen asked what the memorial will look like. Ms. Stickel said it would be similar to the memorial to the whaler's wives in Gloucester, Massachusetts; however, there were never whalers wives in Morro Bay so the image will be somewhat different. She said that their next meeting will coincide with the April 15, 2007 event of the Blessing of the Fleet. Mr. Doughty offered a heartfelt thank you to Ms. Tognazzini and Ms. Stickel for doing the work to create this organization.

IV-3. Harbor Department Goals and Fiscal Objectives for FY2007-2009

Mr. Algert reviewed the goals set previously set by the Board and asked for the current Board's comments on funding for future capital projects. He reviewed revenues from Tidelands leaseholds as well as all current revenues from fees and charges to slip holders, mooring holders, and transient vessels. He also said there is an annual payment of \$250,000 for the Morro Bay Power Plant Outfall Lease.

Mr. Algert reviewed the list in order of priorities, which the Board had previously recommended to City Council for consideration in the formation of the City budget, and then discussed the top ten current project priorities from staff as follows: 1. Harbor Office Project; 2. Ice Making Machine Project; 3. State Park Marina Dredging Project; 4. North T-Pier Maintenance; 5. Waterfront Boardwalk; 6. City Slips, Street End Docks and Fishing Piers at Anchor Park; 7. Seafood Processing Plant; 8. Boat Dry Storage and Repair Facility; 9. Dept. Management Audit; and 10. Development of a Maritime Museum.

Chairman Anderson opened discussion to the Board, asking for their list of priorities. Ms. Meissen said it seemed the goals listed not only depended upon how much money currently available but also what projects could be revenue-generating and self-sustaining. She said her recommended priorities would be: 1. Boatyard, and 2. Harbor Dredging. Mr. Ewing said he would recommend dredging maintenance first and the boatyard project second, which would help the situation of keeping derelict boats from sinking and would also generate income. He said he knows a man from Oregon who is interested in putting a Marine Store in Morro Bay and is interested in a boatyard facility. Mr. Ewing said maybe the Department of Boating and Waterways may be able to assist with financing a boatyard. He said he would place the Boardwalk at the end of his list of priorities, and said the seafood processing plant may not be supported this year in our area.

Mr. Doughty said his priorities would also be items that help raise Harbor Fund revenues. His priorities would be: 1. Dredging Harbor Entrance/Interiors, 2. Dock Repair Work, 3. Harbor Office, 4. Marine Research Center, 5. Seafood Processing Plant, 6. Public Restrooms, 7. Federal Programs Subsidizing Fishermen, 8. State Park Marina Dredging, and 9. Boardwalk.

Mr. Phillips said his first priority would be dredging. He said the success of items such as the seafood processing plant and ice machine hinges on the success of projects such as the grant Mr. Ewing is involved in. He said the Harbor Office is necessary but a complicated project due to agreements with the Coast Guard and funding. Mr. Phillips said he agrees that the docks and piers need to be maintained as well, and that should be high on the priorities list.

Ms. Leary listed her priorities as follows: 1. Dredging, due to safety and access to the ocean; 2. Boat Repair Yard, necessary to take care of derelict vessels; 3. Miscellaneous Dock Repair; 4. Harbor Office, as it seems a bit cramped in the office; 5. North T-Pier restroom replacement; 6. State Park Marina Dredging; 7. Waterfront Boardwalk. Ms. Leary said she did not list the remaining items, as she is not familiar enough with the details or necessity regarding the seafood processing plant or support of federal programs subsidizing fishermen.

Mr. Laurie and Mr. Algert discussed the revenue situation at the State Park Marina; he said his top three priorities would be Dredging, Marine Boat Repair Yard, and Dock Repair. He also discussed the option of parking meters along the Embarcadero with Mr. Algert.

Chairman Anderson said the \$200,000 per year of uncommitted funds, as stated by Mr. Algert, is a pretty small amount; so he would recommend moving up on the list anything that will save money in the long run; he also recommended using grant funding as much as possible for projects. With outside funding, he would recommend building a restroom at the foot of Beach Street. Mr. Anderson's further list of priorities are as follows: 1. Dredging; 2. Harbor Office, if the Coast Guard has the funding now, the project should move forward; 3. State Park Marina Dredging, as he feels the State Parks does have the option to cancel the agreement with a six-month notice if they wanted to take it over again; 4. Boatyard; 5. Seafood Processing Plant.

The Board discussed the priorities list further, and Chairman Anderson asked the Board for agreement on the following order of the Capital Projects Priorities list:

1. Dredging of Harbor Entrance/Interior
2. Boat Repair Yard and Marine Research Center
3. North T-Pier and Miscellaneous Dock and Revetment Repair
4. Harbor Office/Coast Guard Joint Facility
5. Public Restroom at Beach Street
6. State Park Marina Dredging, if no Harbor Funds spent other than revenue generated by the Marina itself
7. Seafood Processing Plant
8. Boardwalk

Chairman Anderson recommended drafting a letter to City Council outlining these items, and the Board was in agreement.

IV-4. Ice Making Machine Update

Mr. Algert briefed the Board on the current status of the ice making machine. He said the \$400,000 funding came from the Cable Liaison Committee, and another \$100,000 came from a grant for electrical upgrade. Mr. Algert said there have been problems with the installation, specifically the earthquake and wind-shear standards, which required another \$30,000. He said today the company TRJ said the installation of the ice machine is scheduled for the end of February.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

V-1. Harbor Department Status Report

Mr. Algert reviewed the following items from the Status Report:

MLPA

Tall Ships

Movie Being Produced in SLO & Morro Bay Mid-February

Parking Management Plan

Derelict Boat Demolition

Dredge Yaquina

Kite Festival

C-MANC

City Council Action:

Maritime Museum

Hunting in Morro Bay

Harbor Dept./US Coast Guard Joint Facility

VI. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Mr. Algert recognized Mr. Don Lockwood for all his service for more than 20 years. Mr. Phillips said a member of the Morro Bay Yacht Club Juniors, Joel Crow, is crewing on the tall ship Lady Washington, which is arriving in Morro Bay on February 22, 2007. Chairman Anderson asked Ms. Leary about whale watching on Virg's boats, and she replied that there have been many sightings recently, but it is expected to slow down while the whales are in Baja for the next few weeks.

Mr. Doughty stated he would like to go on record to dispel any rumors that he is involved with the developer in a project adjacent to the old Orval Leage property; he stated he has no such agreement or involvement with the developer or the project.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

March	Parking Management Plan Presentation Harbor Dept. Goals and Fiscal Objectives for FY2007-2009 Newspaper Racks
April	Appeal Request by Jerry Coffee Live-aboard Permits Status

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM

Submitted by,

Polly Curtis
Harbor Department