

CITY OF MORRO BAY
HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD
SYNOPSIS MINUTES

The regular meeting of the City of Morro Bay Harbor Advisory Board was held Thursday, September 3, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the Veteran's Hall, 209 Surf ST, Morro Bay, California.

I. ROLL CALL

Present:	Members:	Brett Cunningham Gene Doughty Bill Luffee Lynn Meissen Jim Phillips
	Absent:	Michele Leary
	Resigned:	Barbara Strassel
	Staff:	Rick Algert, Harbor Director Polly Curtis, Office Assistant

II. MINUTES

Mr. Doughty moved the August 6, 2009 Harbor Advisory Board minutes be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Luffee and carried unanimously.

III. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Chairman Phillips said Ms. Strassel has resigned from the Harbor Advisory Board, and he thanked her for the time and effort she put in as a Board member.

Chairman Phillips introduced Mr. Kirk Brus of the Army Corps of Engineers who was asked by Mr. Algert to give the Board a brief overview of the upcoming dredging process.

Mr. Brus said the contractor who won the bid, AIS, has not submitted a dredge plan or schedule as of this date, but he reviewed the possible types of dredges, the approximate locations, and the estimated commencement dates of the project. He answered questions from the Board.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND ACTION ITEMS

IV-1. State Park Marina Maintenance Dredging

Mr. Algert said the Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) has designated funds for coastal improvement projects, and the Harbor Department has received a grant for \$297,000 to proceed with the maintenance dredging permitting process. He said if the permits are secured, there is a potential to make arrangements with a contractor who would already be on site; this would require City Council approval. He said Anchor Environmental would actively work on the dredge permitting, but it is still a complicated process to allow materials to be deposited near shore. He said there would be many studies on the mitigation and eelgrass policies for the near shore site. He said construction is not yet funded, but possibly DBW will have grant funds available along with some revenues from the State Park Marina concession. He said the grant is a good first step and will help move us along in the State Park Marina remodel project.

After the Board asked questions about the silt issues, maintenance scheduling, and monitoring, Mr. Algert said all the issues are identified in the EIR base document which Anchor Environmental will address.

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

V-1. Harbor Department Status Report – Waterfront Development

Mr. Algert reviewed several of the current projects and lease site developments for the Board, saying that the status and ideas change all the time, but this is a snapshot of the current developments. His review included the following:

City North Embarcadero Capital Improvement Plan
Virg's, Harbor Hut and GAFCO
DeGarimore Fuel and Ice, Giovanni's Fish Market
Whale's Tail Restaurant
Conference Center Project
Held/Violet Project
Salt Building
Lease Site 35-36W and Lease Site 30W-33W

Discussion ensued by the Board. Mr. Algert said he included as many harbor-related projects as possible so that the Board could make recommendations to the Planning Commission and City Council on topics specific to the harbor. The Board expressed interest in seeing updates on waterfront development every three months.

V-2. Harbor Department Status Report – Fall Newsletter

Mr. Algert referred the Board to the Harbor Newsletter, and asked if there were any questions. Chairman Phillips said he passed along the dredging information from the newsletter to Yacht Club members and the State Park Marina tenants.

VI. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Mr. Doughty said there are more dead sea lions that need to be hauled out from the dock area where his office is located, and some live sea lions have climbed onto his skiff. Discussion ensued by the Board and Mr. Algert about approved sea lion deterrents. Mr. Algert said the Harbor Office has received complaints from boat owners, and he said the office has a list of approved deterrents which boat owners should use themselves on the sea lions. He said there cannot be permanent injury to sea lions, and carpet tacks are not approved. He said the Harbor Department will be trying different means of deterrent such as creating obstacles on the docks and spraying with water. He said cattle fencing and barriers are approved means.

Mr. Cunningham said he has seen a local person use hot wire tape and after only a short time, the sea lions stopped using the docks. He said this is a serious issue that needs to be addressed sooner than later, because in the 25 years he's been up and down the coast, he has never witnessed this large a population of sea lions in the ocean.

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

**October Lifeguard Report
 Dredging Update**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM

Submitted by,

Polly Curtis
Harbor Department