

AGENDA NO: A-1

MEETING DATE: December 5, 2019

MINUTES-MORRO BAY HARBOR ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING – September 5, 2019
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL HALL – 5:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Ron Reisner HAB Chair
Gene Doughty HAB Member
Lynn Meissen HAB Member
Peter Griffin HAB Member
Dana McClish HAB Member
Cherise Hansson HAB Member

ABSENT: Mark Blackford HAB Vice-Chair

STAFF: Lori Stilts Harbor Business Coordinator
Becka Kelly Harbor Patrol Supervisor

ESTABLISH QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m., with a quorum present.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CHAIR AND ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=100>

PUBLIC COMMENT

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=300>

The public comment period was opened and closed with no comments.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=368>

Unless an item is pulled for separate action by the Board, the following actions are approved without discussion. The public will also be provided an opportunity to comment on consent agenda items.

A-1 HARBOR DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT

RECOMMENDATION: Receive and file.

Chair Reisner read a memorandum of conflict of interest from the City's Attorney explaining there is no reason for a current liveaboard Board Member to recuse themselves from the Master Fee, B-5 discussion.

MOTION: Board Member Doughty moved approval of items A-1 through A3. The Motion was seconded by Board Member McClish and carried unanimously, 6-0.

There was Board consensus to move B-5 to the beginning of the business items.

Peter Griffin joined the Board at the dais at 5:45 p.m.

B. BUSINESS ITEMS

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=586>

B-5 PRESENTATION ON MASTER FEE SCHEDULE STUDY RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATION ON FEE RECOVERY RATES FOR HARBOR DEPARTMENT FEES

Chair Reisner explained to the Board and public the process of how B-5 will be presented and provided background on the City's Cost and Fee Study relating to the two liveaboard fees being discussed this evening.

The public comment period was opened.

Denise Jacobson, Liveaboard, stated she does not understand the Service fees and suggests the fees were picked out of the wind and would like the vote postponed to go along with the Fishermen.

Anastasha Ruthchow, Liveaboard on the Bay, stated the trash container is always locked and with no recycle, she fills her boat up once a month with water, doesn't take showers at the public restrooms because the water is cold and she feels unsafe. The 430% fee increase for services doesn't make any sense.

Scott Moore, owner of Tanya B, stated the restrooms are ridiculous with homeless sleeping in them, shower heads are stolen, and coin machines are broken and doesn't want to pay for something the general public gets for free.

Jesse Brazzel, Liveaboard, stated his permit was revoked because he refused to pay fees for overnight at Tidelands dock, and million-dollar boats fill up with water and don't have to pay.

Christopher Collpoy, Liveaboard, stated if there is a new fee increase perhaps it could be postponed until there are new facilities.

Craig Kent, resident of Solvang and his father owns the vessel Helene in Morro Bay, compared his resident exclusive utilities to the liveaboard services offered by the City and seems like apportionment is heavily weighted toward the moored boats verse the boats in a slip.

Steve Yarling, state he's been living and working in Morro Bay for 4 decades and uses the shower next to the Harbor Office and is in favor of a little increase and thanked the Board for their service.

Lori Toff, new sailboat owner, thanked the Harbor Patrol for their service, but feels like the liveaboard community keeps the bay safe and seems like a lot of free water is going to the fish cleaning station.

Drew Jacobson, Liveaboard, thanked Board Member Doughty for slowing down the fee increase and asked to hold the vote tonight and will work with department staff in the future.

Denise Jacobson stated that there are 30 permitted liveaboards and the fee would only affect about 12 of them.

Mike _____ stated he just heard about this a week ago and would like to slow it down and agrees to paying something, but when the shower is flooded or doesn't work, or no hot water, doesn't see the increase.

West _____, Liveaboard, asked who performed the cost study? Chair Reisner explained the City's hiring of a Cost Specialist. West made clear he doesn't use any of the facilities and is paying a fee for nothing.

Mimi Goldberg requested the Board Members ask City Council to give the mooring holders a break.

David Perlis, Liveaboard, stated this seems misguided to put the fees on the Liveboards especially at this rate.

The public comment period was closed.

Harbor Business Coordinator Stilts presented the staff report for B-5.

Chair Reisner opened a second public comment period.

Denise Jacobson requested explanation of what the \$38,000 overall liveaboard cost is for?

David Perlis requested what part of the \$38,000 is incurred by liveboards verses general public?

Christopher Collpoy stated he doesn't understand what the \$38,000 means and it sounds Citywide and not just Harbor.

Craig Kent stated there seems to be a lack of clarification of how the fees are allocated and distributed to mooring holders.

Mimi Goldberg asked why it took so long to recognize the shortfall of income verses expenses and suggested the City should get a second opinion.

Jesse Brazzel asked why the Harbor Department isn't using the granted derelict boat money to fund the liveaboard shortfall.

Jason Mayer, looking to become a Liveaboard, is familiar with the poor conditions of Morro Bay showers and prefers San Luis Obispo Harbor private showers.

Chair Reisner closed public comment.

There was Board discussion and input.

Chair Reisner polled the approximate 40 audience members of accepting of setting up a meeting with the City staff to discuss the Liveaboard Service fee increase and the City to provide more cost explanations. The audience members were in agreement.

MOTION: Member Doughty move to postpone B5 until representatives from the Liveboards meet with the City staff and work out arrangements on fee structure and their concerns. The motion was seconded by Member McClish. The motion carried 6-0.

Chair Reisner thanked the Liveaboard community for their participation at tonight's meeting.

B-1 UPDATE FROM THE BOATYARD/MARINE SERVICES FACILITY AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE'S RECENT ACTIVITIES

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=4442>

Committee Chair McClish stated the committee has continued to work toward looking for grant funding for the Boatyard/Marine Services facility and as a result has engaged with an experienced grant writer Louis Tornatzky. There will be a class Wednesday, September 18 at the Morro Bay Yacht Club from 2 - 4 p.m.

B-2 UPDATE FROM THE FINANCE & BUDGET AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE'S RECENT ACTIVITIES

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=4632>

Board Chair Reisner stated the Committee Chair is absent tonight and there is nothing new to report.

B-3 UPDATE FROM THE EELGRASS AD-HOC COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE'S RECENT ACTIVITIES

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=4661>

Committee Chair Meissen stated the Committee has not met since last month and nothing new to report.

B-4 UPDATE ON HARBOR DEPARTMENT LEASE MANAGEMENT POLICY UPDATE PROCESS

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=4747>

Board Member Hansson summarized the latest from the Lease Managements Policy Update meeting and confirmed the next meeting will be September 17.

C. DECLARATION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

<https://youtu.be/TjBWOaemQ7c?t=4870>

There were no new items declared.

Pending items previously declared:

- Goals and Objectives – Working Waterfront Designation
- Measure D
- Explore Benefits of Becoming a Harbor or Port District
- Wind Energy Generation off the Coast of Morro Bay
- Creation of an Embarcadero Business District to Fund Harbor Infrastructure
- Review of TBID Assessment funding
- Identify/review responsible parties for cleanliness of waterfront ground lease sites, public restrooms, light posts, and concern for public safety
- Report for Morro Bay Quota Fund in September or October of 2019
- Mini “SWOT”

E. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m. The next Regular Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Veteran’s Memorial Hall located at 209 Surf Street, Morro Bay, California.

Recorded by,

Lori Stilts
Harbor Business Coordinator