
SITKA PORT AND HARBORS COMMISSION

Special Commission Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2015

Harrigan Centennial Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER Chair Knox called the meeting to order at 6pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Kevin Knox, Josh Arnold, Clay Davis, Melissa Greenhalgh, Stan Johnson

Members Absent: Michael Johnson, Mary Ann Peterson

Others Present: Harbor Master Stan Eliason, Deputy Harbor Master Charles Hackett, Assembly Liaison Matthew Hunter, Secretary Kacie Rear, Municipal Engineer Dan Tadic.

Members of the Public: Principal Civil Engineer Dick Somerville, Principal Electrical Engineer Mark Morris, Lisa Busch, Larry Trani, Linda Speerstra, Steve Clayton, Mica Trani, Fred Fayche, Alison Dunlap, John Dunlap, Matt Donohoe, Nancy Leclerd-Davidson, Judy Puckett.

III. CHANGES TO AGENDA

- Switch New Business and Unfinished Business

MOTION: **M-Davis / S-Arnold** moved to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2015 meeting.

ACTION: Motion **PASSED unanimously** on a voice vote.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE - None

V. PERSONS TO BE HEARD-

- Rob Allen thinks the electricity in the harbors is a little high and that the moorage rates are reasonable considering Seattle's rates.

VI. REPORTS

1. Harbormaster-

- a. HM S. Eliason presented Financial Analysis for the eight- month period ending in February 2015 report from Jay Sweeny. Permanent moorage is falling slightly behind in FY14 but transient moorage is up. Revenue has increased 10.9% over the eight-month period of FY14. Everything looks good and according to plan and looks good for the transient float.
- b. M. Hunter reported about what the assembly did with the funds coming from the ANB harbor. ANB came out to be less in cost than expected and the extra bonds can be transferred to the transient float project coming to be \$197,000.
 - i. Update for the resolutions of Net Shed event use fee and Float Home Rates are going to be looked at April 28, 2015 by the City Assembly.

Matthew Hunter left the meeting

2. City Staff –

- a. Dan Tadic with the updates on funding for the transient float. Legislator cut funding for Crescent Harbor from \$5 million to \$2.5 million to \$0. There is now no Crescent Harbor project. Assembly approved to move the \$197,000 from the ANB to the Transient Float project. Electrical department are looking to increase revenue by \$500,000 to the transient float project in FY16 budget by adding electricity to the new transient float since the old float doesn't have power. Having power put in the new transient float will bring in more revenue.
 - b. Dick Somerville and Mark Morris gave a 65% update on the Sitka Transient Float Replacement with a slide show presentation. Topics covered include: Project Scope and Budget, Design, Power and Lighting, Cost Estimates, Demolition and Disposal, Permitting and ATS, and Project Schedule.
 - i. The main concern about the disposal of the transient floats was the cost to haul them out and send them down south. If we are able to dispose of them locally it would save about \$300,00-\$400,000.
 - ii. Linda Speerstra came and talked about the invasive species that could be on the bottom of the floats and how we need to treat them before we ship them out if that is a possibility too. Some ideas would be to haul the floats out and bleach the invasive species or to torch them off. She also mentioned Marnie having the idea to let UAS to treat them thru their science class.
 - iii. Rob Allen had an idea to treat the floats of invasive species by using the 100ft dry dock from Allen Marine. Then you would be able to treat them and fill up the dock with whatever fluid needed to kill them off. Another idea was to see if people interested in using the old transient floats for the new float homes going into ANB harbor.
3. **Chair-** K. Knox reported that Raven Radio wants to know if the Commission would be interested in doing the morning show starting September 8, 2015. For whoever is able to attend.
4. **Other(s)- None**

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Sealing parking/expansion-** Some concerns about Sealing Cove parking was it is harder for larger boat trailers to maneuver in and out of the trailer parking and that people who do have a hard time end up parking in the grass during the busy summer months. During the salmon derby and Memorial Day weekend the parking lot gets really busy.
 - a. Mica Trani and Larry Trani presented a Sealing Cove drawing and came up with a cost effective way to make the sealing cove parking more efficient to boaters.
 - i. This design shows angled parking to make it easier. May take away about 14 standard car parking spaces but it does offer better parking spaces to larger trailers.
2. **Fish Box Tax-** The fish box tax is split between three separate funds: General Fund 40%, Harbor Fund 30%, and Enhancement Fund 30%. Allocation is to bring more money to the Harbor Fund.
 - a. Steve Reifentstahl presented a letter to the commission about the Enhancement Fund and what the fund is used for. NSRAA opted out for requesting any fish box tax. Sitka Sound Science Center (SSSC) and SJ Hatchery are significant in bring money to Sitka. The enhancement program brings in about \$10M annually and some years its \$20M.

- b. Lisa Busch came to the podium to talk about the SSSC and the SJ Hatchery. SSSC would like to not change the allocation for enhancement tax for they have an impact with bringing in profit to the Port and Harbors. They do need the 30% contribution to be able to operate the way they do their work. SSSC releases 3M chum, 3M pink and 250,000 coho, making the fisherman come to Sitka and pay for moorage.
- c. Nancy Leclerd-Davidson says the Fish Box Tax brings in approximately \$100,000 plus. The current 30% allocation brings in \$33,000 which is 11% of the hatchery budget. They do have to rely on the enhancement fund.
- d. Rob Allen is starting a charter business and thinks that the fish box tax to the enhancement shouldn't be taken away, since they do contribute a lot to the fishing industry.

Further Discussion of the fish box tax is postponed for the next meeting date.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Designated permit parking & fees-** Stan Eliason would like to have customers who purchase a 30 day parking permit to move to the port facility or sealing cove to clear out the 10 day parking for fisherman and island residences. He would like to charge \$2.00 a day being \$60.00 a month. Customers are able to purchase 2 month parking permits form the police department. He recommended a motion to move forward to bring to the police and fire department for the monthly permit parking.
 - a. Judy Puckett from the Police Department mentioned that the parking permits have been used for years and that the places at the port facility and sealing cove have been used before for long term parking. The dollar amount would change from \$0.50 to \$2.00 a day. The price of a ticket is \$25 and the current price of a permit is \$15. Harbor Department has an interest in issuing tickets, but needs further discussion. If the Harbor Department did take over the ticketing it could possibly go to the harbor fund.
 - b. Matt Donohoe disagreed with the \$2.00 a day because it is a huge increase and he is a fisherman and island resident.

MOTION: M-Arnold/S-S.Johnson move to recommend Harbor Masters revision to the permit parking being \$1.00 a day; \$30.00 for a monthly permit, \$60 for 2 months.

ACTION: Motion PASSED unanimously on a voice vote.

IX. GENERAL DISCUSSION-None

X. CLOSING

1. **Next Meeting Agenda Items**
 - Next regular Port & Harbors meeting on May 6, 2015
 - i. Fish Box Tax
 - ii. Transient Float
 - iii. Crescent Harbor
2. **Next meeting Date** – Harrigan Centennial Hall May 6, 2015 at 6 pm
3. **Adjournment** – **M-Arnold/S-Knox** adjourned the meeting at 8:19 pm

Prepared by: Kacie Rear
Secretary