

**BOARD OF HARBOR COMMISSIONERS
CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
MINUTES**

Regular Monthly Meeting

February 26, 2008

City Council Chambers - City Hall 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL 6:32 p.m.

Commissioners Present

Will Anikouchine
Betsy R. Cramer
Frank Kelly
Ken Owen
Charles Watson

Staff Present

John Bridley, Waterfront Director
Scott Riedman, Waterfront Business Manager
Karl Treiberg, Facilities Manager
Mary Adams, Harbor Commission Secretary

Councilmembers Present

None

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

HARBOR COMMISSION MATTERS

1. Approval of Minutes

Moved to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2009, Harbor Commission meeting. Cramer/Anikouchine 5-0.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2. Department Update

- Council Actions
- California Marine Affairs And Navigation Conference (CMANC)
- Tentative Agenda Items for March

3. Business Services Report

- Honor Fee Collection System in Palm Park Lot
- Expansion of NBCC Safe Parking Program in Garden Street Lot
- Please Don't Feed the Birds

Commissioner Cramer believes the new "Please Don't Feed the Birds" signs along with Wildlife Care Network summer volunteers will be very helpful in protecting the seabirds on the wharf.

Commissioner Anikouchine questioned why people are not supposed to feed the birds. Both Commissioners Owen and Cramer explained that feeding the birds makes them dependent on human food; habituates them away from their normal diet; attracts birds which become a nuisance; and puts the birds/gulls in danger of being hooked on fishing lines on the wharf.

Commissioners commented on the success of the New Beginnings Parking Program and asked logistical questions regarding the affects on Waterfront lots. They also asked how much additional revenue had been collected since the Honor Fee Program was implemented in Palm Park lot. Mr. Riedman will research revenue information for January, February and March and find out how many people have moved through the New Beginnings program since its inception. He will provide this information at an upcoming Commission meeting.

4. Facilities Management Report

- Stearns Wharf
 - Annual Pile Driving Project
 - PLR Emergency Generator
 - Breakwater Cap Repair Project – Phase 3
- Harbor
 - Marina One Emergency Egress Float
 - Accommodation Dock Extension
 - Marina One Electrical Repairs

Commissioners inquired about the necessity of moving forward on certain projects noted in the staff report. Director Bridley explained that Commissioners would be deciding which projects will move forward when they vote on the budget at the March meeting. Both the electrical service to Marina One and accommodation dock expansion projects were discussed and seemed to have support as being necessary at this time.

5. Harbor Operations Report

- Parade of Lights Recap
- New Sewage Pumpout Boat
- Two Boats Sink in Separate Incidents
- Bio-degradable Soaps

NEW BUSINESS

6. Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Overview

Harbor Commission received a report on the development status of the Fiscal Year 2010 Waterfront Department operating and capital budget from Business Manager, Scott Riedman.

Commissioners' Concerns/Comments:

- Concerned about continuing to transfer Enterprise Funds from Waterfront to General Fund programs
- Found no nexus between Waterfront Department and the potential program shifts for lifeguards and beach grooming
- If Waterfront assumes responsibility for some Parks and Recreation Programs, Waterfront should determine how the program will be implemented not simply transfer money to Parks and Recreation Department
- Implications of Parking increases on Businesses and Department Revenues
- Sustainability of employee salaries and benefits
- Loss of Waterfront revenues due to the economic downturn
- Need to retain funds in case of emergencies due to nature of the department and potential for unexpected expenses
- Irresponsible spending by the General Fund should not be borne by responsible Enterprise Funds.
- Slip permittees should not have to support the Park and Recreation Department programs

Director Bridley clarified some of the issues associated with the Program funding shift. Exact programs have not been identified, but may include the restrooms at the base of Stearns Wharf in addition to beach grooming and lifeguards. Some programs would be appropriate for the Waterfront to operate/run and others such as lifeguards may be solely a transfer of funds because of the program's complexity. Also, staff will continue working with Merchants' Associations to determine appropriate parking fees that work for everyone. Mr. Bridley asked Commissioners to review the Capital Projects' list and be ready to make a recommendation at the March Harbor Commission meeting.

COMMISSION/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

ADJOURNMENT

Moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. Watson/Cramer 5-0.