

MINUTES
BOATING AND WATERWAYS COMMISSION MEETING
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
NOVEMBER 18, 2015

Pursuant to due and regular notice, the meeting of the Boating and Waterways Commission was called to order by Chairman Livingston on November 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. at the Port of San Diego, District Administration Building, 3165 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California 92101.

INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

A quorum among Commissioners present, David Livingston, Chair; Virginia Madueno, Vice Chair, Frank Peralta, Commissioner; Doug Metz, Commissioner; Randy Short, Commissioner; Cecily Harris, Commissioner. State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) staff present was Christopher C. Conlin, Acting Deputy Director, Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW); Kathryn Tobias, Legal Counsel; other DBW staff and registered visitors.

Not present: Katherine Pettibone, Commissioner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kathryn Tobias, Legal Counsel announced in the future, the minutes are approved as taken unless a change, in which case if you change the minutes, then you'll want to have a motion to approve. Otherwise if there are no changes and no disagreement, you can just say the minutes are approved.

MOTION: It was a tally of 6-0-0 motion pass and moved by the Commissioners that the Boating and Waterways Commission Minutes of August 26, 2015 meeting be approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Livingston opened the meeting and turned it over to Deputy Director Conlin for the Chairman's report.

Christopher C. Conlin, Acting Deputy Director introduced and welcomed new Commissioner Cecily Harris. Commissioner Harris has a very strong background in Boating and Waterways. Commissioner Harris brings a unique perspective to the Commission. Commissioner Harris background is very much in hand paddle craft, paddle boards and kayaks.

COMMISSIONERS' ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Commissioner Short gave briefing on several items:

Commissioner Short reported the president of CMANC inquired if Boating and Waterways will be able to help fund Climate change infrastructure requirements. Commissioner Short will report back to the Commission after additional meetings.

Commissioner Short stated he continues to work closely with the U.S. Forest Service, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Inyo and Mono Counties on their Eastern Sierra Waterways Project, to provide hand-launch boating access to approximately 42 lakes in the Eastern Sierra. Staff offered a workshop for those counties to help them navigate the grant process.

Commissioner Short emphasized that boating is dramatically changing, and asserted the need to re-invent boating with the new generations. He noted the differing needs for an aging population. He noted the added challenge of wounded warriors as illustrated by the high suicide rate. He encouraged adoption of new technologies related to hand launch and requested that a future meeting of the Commission focus on new technologies and needs related to hand launched vessels.

Vice Chair Madueno reported a call from a city council member from the City of Modesto, regarding a hand-made vessel that was floating on the Tuolumne River. For more than a year, the city has reached out to local and state agencies in an attempt to deal with this issue. Vice Chair Madueno congratulated Ramona Fernandez for the pending removal and reported that the City was pleased.

Vice Chair Madueno reported continued opportunities for economic development and vitality through the opportunities that waterways afford.

Vice Chair Madueno reported that she was asked to give a presentation at the Stockton Rotary and requested Power Point presentation that Commissioners could take into the community.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – DIVISION ACTIVITES UPDATE

Christopher C. Conlin, Acting Deputy Director provided division highlights:

He thanked the Port for use of the facility and highlighted the local Shelter Island project later on the agenda. He further noted, several other local facilities such as the Aquatic Centers, Imperial Beach, Silver Strands and Mission Bay that were funded in some way from Boating and Waterways.

- **Boating Operations:** Ramona Fernandez and Acting Deputy Director Conlin visited the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Glynco, Georgia. DBW is working with Federal Law Enforcement Training Center to all DBW training with federal standards. He reported the mechanism for doing that is Maritime Law Enforcement Training Center (MLETC), MLETC in the Port of Los Angeles with whom the division shares an increasingly cooperative relationship.
- **Loans and Grant Financial Services:** Staff provided a presentation to the Marine Recreation Association in Santa Barbara, explaining grants and loans. This is part of an expanded mandate to be responsive and open to the public needs.
- **Aquatic Invasive Species Unit:** Acting Deputy Director Conlin reported that mechanical harvesting of water hyacinth had started in the Delta. He recognized new staff, Roo Vigillupo, Contracts representative, for her assistance facilitating a four-year harvesting contract years for the entire Delta.

Acting Deputy Director Conlin then recognized Susie Sykes, who attended the Harbormaster's Conference, Lake Tahoe; here she was recognized for the effectiveness of her program. Ms. Sykes oversees the Abandoned Watercraft and Abatement (AWAF) and the Vessel Turn-In Programs (VTIP).

Acting Deputy Director Conlin reported that the majority of DBW grant programs are now on-line in an automated system. OLGA is the name of the system and AWAF and VTIP is the first to go live and is on schedule.

Acting Deputy Director reported that the Technical Advisory Group for the California Vessel Operator's Card (VOC), is signed in place on Target to start work.

DBW is hiring additional staff to manage the program and year 2018 will be the roll-out. He reported that DBW is presenting a Governor's Proclamation to the Coast Guard Auxiliary and recently presented one to U.S. Power Squadron. Both are partners in this program.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Acting Deputy Director Conlin gave a brief highlight of legislative bills:

Assembly Bill 638 by Assemblyman Frazier: This bill requires children under 13 to wear life jackets when on board a moving vessel regardless of the length of the vessel. He stated that it's a good bill.

Assembly Bill 1323 by Assemblyman Frazier: Marine Debris Removal and Disposal. Acting Deputy Director Conlin stated this bill is an important tool for addressing abandoned watercraft and other materials that show up on waterways.

Assembly Bill 1528: Changes DBW name to Division of Boating and Waterways.

Senate Bill 223, by Senator Galgiani: This bill would provide an oversight committee for aquatic invasive species. It's currently held with no information on its future status.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public comment.

ADVICE AND COMMENT REGARDING PUBLIC GRANTS

Casey Caldwell, Project Manager, Loans and Grants Unit gave a brief presentation regarding the Shelter Island Boat Launching Facility Project regarding San Diego Unified Port District's request for a \$6.1 million design and construction grant for this facility located here in San Diego. In addition, to discuss contributions that the Wildlife Conservation Board is proposing to make to fund important parts of this project.

San Diego Unified Port District representatives at the meeting were:

Cynthia Mertes, Management Analyst
Bill Melton, Associate Engineer and the Project Manager
Dirk Epperson, Manager of Engineering and Construction
Eileen Maher, Manager, Environmental and Land Use Management Department
Mayra Medel, Senior Planner, Environmental and Land Use Management Department
Paul Brandt, Program Manager, Environmental and Land Use Management Department
Job Nelson, Director of Government and Civic Relation
Zach Birmingham, Government and Civic Relations

Ernie Medina, Chief Engineer, Government and Civic Relations
Brian Jensen and James Dreher, Harbor Police
Marguerite Elicone, Marketing and Communications
James Hammel, Real Estate

Mr. Caldwell stated that number of people attending from the Port demonstrates how energized and engaged the Port has been as partners. He thanked thank the folks from the Port District who attended.

Mr. Caldwell highlighted concept design of the proposed project. Some components are DBW funded, and there are others are Wildlife Conservation Board funded. Wildlife Conservation Board is a State of California board whose primary purpose is to approve state funding for wildlife habitat protection, restoration and wildlife-oriented public access. WCB's participation in this project is contingent on approval from their board. WCB is considering the Shelter Island project at its 2/24/16 board meeting.

Mr. Caldwell stated the overall project consists of the following key elements: The positioning of the new boat launching ramp and the new apron. Both of those will be demolished and replaced. The new boat launching ramp will be a like-kind replacement. It will be ten lanes, cast-in-place, V-grooved. There will be new gangways on either side of the ramp. The existing rock jetty will be excavated and will be replaced by a concrete sheet pile breakwater. The sheet pile breakwater will be positioned on the outside of where the existing jetty is, and as a result of the replacement, the launching basin size will increase by about 82 percent according to the current plan. The entry/exit point will be repositioned and enlarged. The expanded launch basin and the entry/exit point. The current entry/exit point at median low tide is 25 feet across. The new entry/exit point will be 60 feet across. Visibility into the basin will be vastly improved because of the positioning. Basically the breakwater's going to go from being kind of a G shape, based on what exists, to more of a C shape.

The interior perimeter of the breakwater, will have boarding floats. Current boarding floats in the facility accommodate no more than two boats at a time. The docks will be long; they will basically extend all the way around the perimeter, creating more places to tie off, a lot more places for folks to launch, tie off, park their vehicles and come back without impeding other boaters trying to get into the water. There will a new kayak staging area, a concrete area with temporary parking to help people traverse in and out. There will be ADA improvements to the existing restroom as well as to the parking area so that folks with vehicles, trailer and boats, will be able to park their vehicles there.

The WCB will be funding the entirety of the new concrete sheet pile breakwater. They will be funding dewatering of the site so that all in-water construction can take place and a cast-in-place ramp can be installed.

WCB be funding about half of the cost of the new boarding floats, and they'll be funding part of the excavation of the existing rock jetty. WCB is funding the temporary dam and dewatering of the site, excavation of the existing rock jetty, installing the sheet pile breakwater and helping with the boarding floats.

The Division of Boating and Waterways seeks Commission advice and comment on the proposed \$6.1 million Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund design and construction grant to the San Diego Unified Port District for the Shelter Island Boat Launching Facility for improvements described in the November 18th, 2015 Feasibility Report.

MOTION: It was moved by Commissioner Metz, seconded by Commissioner Peralta to approve the proposed \$6.1 million Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund design and construction grant to the San Diego Unified Port District for the Shelter Island Boat Launching Facility for improvements described in the November 18th, 2015 Feasibility Report. The motion passed unanimously.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING DIVISION PROGRAMS

- Local Assistance Floating Restroom Grant Program - Ms. Dill
 - Statewide-Floating Restroom Grants
- Local Assistance Pump out Facility Grant Program
 - Pump out Facility (CVA) Grants
- Local Assistance Boat Launching Facility Grant Programs
 - Statewide-Ramp Repair & Modification Grants
 - Statewide-Non-Motorized Boat Launching Facility Grants
 - Statewide-Sign Grants
- Local Assistance Public Small Craft Harbor Loan Program -Mr. Caldwell
 - Statewide-Emergency Loans
 - Statewide-Planning Loans
- Private Small Craft Harbor Loan Program
- Beach Erosion and Restoration Program
 - Beach Restoration Grants
 - Beach Erosion Control Grants
- Aquatic Invasive Species - Ms. Llaban
 - Weed Detection, Monitoring and Control
- Oceanography Program - Dr. Flick

Programs described in handouts at the November 18, 2015 meeting.

DETERMINATION OF FUTURE MEETING DATES AND LOCATIONS

Chairman Livingston, Vice Chair, Commissioners, and Christopher C. Conlin, Acting Deputy Director agreed the next meetings are scheduled for:

February 23 & 24, 2016 in Colusa, California
May 10 & 11, 2016 in San Francisco, California
August 2016 - TBD

SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

None

Meeting Adjourned at 12:00 p.m.