



**HARBOUR COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 23, 2025
Meeting Room B-8
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648**

KIMBERLEY MILLIGAN, Chair
CHRIS NIELSEN, Vice Chair
WILLIAM LARKIN, Board Member
CRAIG SCHAUPPNER, Board Member
VAN VU, Board Member
DIANE WOOD, Board Member

COUNCIL LIAISON

PAT BURNS, Councilmember Liaison
GRACEY VAN DER MARK, Councilmember Liaison

STAFF

ERIC MCCOY, Fire Chief
MARTY ORTIZ, Deputy Fire Chief
KEVIN JUSTEN, Senior Management Analyst

CALLED TO ORDER

Milligan called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Schauppner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Larkin, Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Vu, Wood

City Council Liaison Present: Burns

Staff Present: Justen, Ortiz, McCoy, West

OATH OF OFFICE

Justen led the oath of office for reappointed Commissioners Vu and Wood.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was one public comment from Amory Hanson, who said he supports maintaining the existing spelling of *Huntington Harbour* and not changing it to *Huntington Harbor*.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Meeting Minutes – December 5, 2024

MOTION: A motion was made by Vu, seconded by Larkin to approve the December 5, 2024, meeting minutes.

The motion carried by the following vote, 6-0:

AYES: Larkin, Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Vu, Wood

NOES: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. *Harbour Commission Review of Municipal Code Chapters 13.32, 13.36, 13.40, 13.44*

A staff report was provided by Justen regarding the Harbour Commission’s review of Chapters 13.32, 13.36, 13.40, 13.44 of the Municipal Code. Schauppner recommended the changes highlighted in the staff report with the addition of the same language used in the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code regarding the prohibition of air and water propulsion vessels (Section 17.20.050, page 622).

MOTION: A motion was made by Schauppner, seconded by Nielsen to recommend to the City Council the changes to Chapters 13.32, 13.36, 13.40, 13.44 of the Municipal Code shown in the staff report with the addition of the same language used in the City of Newport Beach Municipal Code regarding the prohibition of air and water propulsion vessels (Section 17.20.050, page 622).

The motion carried by the following vote, 6-0:

AYES: Larkin, Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Vu, Wood

NOES: None

In addition, the Harbour Commission asked that the Request for Legal Services previously submitted regarding permitting and licensing of kayak, duffy and paddleboard rental agencies in Huntington Harbour be resubmitted and made a priority. Justen said that he would resubmit this RLS, along with the RLS for the above recommended changes to the City of Huntington Beach Municipal Code.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. *Vessels and Watercraft Ad Hoc Committee*

Schauppner asked about the prior recommendation by the Harbour Commission for the City Council to endorse and support a legislative proposal to establish a fund for Huntington Harbour and surrounding environs, resourced from rental revenue collected by the State Land Commission (SLC) from

Huntington Harbour homeowners and businesses. Justen said that a staff report was prepared by the City Manager's Office regarding this request and will be provided to the Commission before its next meeting. He noted that the request will be evaluated by the Intergovernmental Relations Committee, who would have to approve it before it can be provided to the City Council. Schauppner stated that it is important to move this recommendation forward in a timely manner to coincide with the upcoming state legislative calendar.

2. Water Quality Ad Hoc Committee

Schauppner reported that the recently formed water quality coalition will be meeting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at the Huntington Harbour Yacht Club. A number of organizations will be present, including the Bolsa Chica Conservancy, Orange County Coast Keepers, the Surfrider Foundation, and Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge. Representative Dixon's Office will also send a representative. The focus of this meeting will be preparation for Earth Day on Sunday, April 27, 2025. An open house event for Earth Day will be held at Bolsa Chica State Beach, Huntington State Beach and the Huntington Harbour Yacht Club. Schauppner asked if Environmental Services Manager Jim Merid could attend at the Yacht Club and provide information and demonstrations regarding the data pods and the Roomba devices. Justen said that he would approach Merid regarding attendance. Schauppner also explained an Orange County Coast Keepers water quality project in the Harbour which uses oysters to filter and clean Harbour waters.

3. Policy Ad Hoc Committee

There was no committee report.

ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON FUTURE AGENDAS

Nielson recommended the following items to be placed on future agendas:

1. **Trash Collection System/Water Wheel – City of Newport Beach:** A tour for Harbour Commissioners should be arranged to obtain an overview of this system in Newport Harbor in order to determine if it would be feasible for Huntington Harbour.
2. **Huntington Harbour Bridges:** A presentation with an overview of the plans for bridge replacements and upgrades in Huntington Harbour should be provided.

Schauppner recommended that one Harbour Commission meeting be held in the Harbour area, at either the Harbour View Clubhouse or the Huntington Harbour Yacht Club. Justen said that he would follow-up with the Fire Chief and City Manager regarding this and noted that it was previously requested but not approved.

RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO RECOGNIZE CALICO FISH HOUSE FOR ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO VICTIMS OF PALISADES AND EATON FIRES

Larkin highlighted the many efforts by the Calico House in Sunset Beach to aid victims of the Palisades and Eaton Fires. He asked that the City Council be informed that the Commission supports the awarding of the Mayor's Spotlight Award to Calico Fish House for these efforts.

MOTION: A motion was made by Larkin, seconded by Schauppner to communicate the Harbour Commission's support of the Mayor's Spotlight Award for Calico Fish House's efforts to provide relief to victims of the Palisades and Eaton Fires.

The motion carried by the following vote, 6-0:

AYES: Larkin, Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Vu, Wood

NOES: None

Justen said that he would communicate this to the City Council Liaisons to the Harbour Commission.

STAFF COMMENTS

Justen said that there were two (2) applications received for the Harbour Commission vacancy and Burns said that he and Van Der Mark would make a selection and recommendation to the City Council as soon as possible.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Schauppner said that the QR code on the Harbour Commission business cards no longer works and Justen said that he would follow-up on this and have them reprinted, if necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Vu, seconded by Milligan, at 5:39 p.m. to adjourn to the February 27, 2025, meeting.

The motion carried by the following vote, 6-0:

AYES: Larkin, Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Vu, Wood

NOES: None

The next regularly meeting of the Harbour Commission will be scheduled for February 27, 2025, at a time and location to be announced.