



**HARBOUR COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**Thursday, February 27, 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
MEL WILLIAMS, Board Member
DIANE WOOD, Board Member

COUNCIL LIAISONS

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

STAFF

ERIC MCCOY, Fire Chief
ERIC DIETERMAN, Marine Safety Division Chief
KEVIN JUSTEN, Senior Management Analyst

CALLED TO ORDER

Milligan called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

McCoy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Williams, Wood

City Council Liaison Present: Burns, Van Der Mark

Staff Present: Dieterman, Justen, McCoy, West, Wysocki

OATH OF OFFICE

Justen led the oath of office for Commissioner Williams.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was one public comment from Amory Hanson, who wanted to reiterate maintaining the existing spelling of *Huntington Harbour* and not changing it to *Huntington Harbor* in any revision of the Municipal Code.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2025

MOTION: A motion was made by Schauppner, seconded by Wood to approve the January 23, 2025, meeting minutes with a correction to the spelling of *Harbour* on page 3.

The motion carried by the following vote, 5-0:

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Williams, Wood

NOES: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

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

McCoy reported that a working group is being formed to review the changes to the Municipal Code recommended by the Harbour Commission and they will make recommendations to the City Council. The group will include staff from the Fire Department, City Manager's Office and other departments. Commissioner Schauppner volunteered to also be a part of the group. Justen reported that the Fire Chief met with the City Manager to review the 19 Commission recommendations and the City Manager directed that each item be evaluated and identified as *policy*, *administrative*, or *clean-up* changes.

2. Permitting and Licensing of Kayak, Duffy and Paddleboard Rental Agencies in Huntington Harbour

McCoy reported that Wysocki and her team are doing an evaluation and will be preparing recommendations regarding the best approach to permitting and licensing of kayak, duffy, and paddleboard rental agencies in Huntington Harbour. Wysocki gave background for this item and said that past experience and lessons learned will inform future direction and decisions. Her staff has evaluated the permitting process for these rentals in Newport Beach and will continue to look at related issues and return with recommendations in the future. She also mentioned a pending lawsuit between a vendor and the City of Newport Beach that could impact permitting.

3. Request for Harbour Commission Meeting in Harbour Area

McCoy said that he spoke with the City Manager regarding this request and for consistency the City Manager's Office wants to have all boards, commissions and committees to continue to meet at City Hall. He said that if one commission is allowed to meet somewhere else it could open the door for other requests to do so, which could be difficult to manage. Justen added that the board, commission and committee working group has been instructed to maintain consistency and interoperability in formatting, procedures and other matters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. *Vessels and Watercraft Ad Hoc Committee*

A discussion ensued regarding the development of safety videos on paddleboard and kayak safety in the Harbour.

2. *Water Quality Ad Hoc Committee*

Schauppner explained his proposal to obtain State of revenue that could be applied to water quality and other Harbour initiatives, including purchase of a trash interceptor. A discussion ensued regarding removing trash debris from the Harbour following storms and an update was provided regarding activities of the recently formed clean water coalition. Wood highlighted the upcoming Earth Day events, referenced the flyer distributed to Commissioners, and Justen said that a Public Works Department representative will be able to attend the event and highlight the work of the data pods and trash removal rovers. Wood also provided a flyer on the Orange County Coastkeeper Huntington Harbour Shell Strings Project. It detailed an upcoming informational meeting on March 14, 2025 at the Huntington Harbour Yacht Club.

3. *Policy Ad Hoc Committee*

There was no committee report.

STAFF COMMENTS

Justen said that the updated Harbour Commission cards will be available at the next meeting. He also complimented and thanked Commissioner Williams for completing 13 of 15 onboarding items. Justen also said that he would provide the Harbour Jurisdiction Study to Commissioner Williams.

MEMBER COMMENTS

Nielsen asked about approaching Orange County Public Works regarding cleanup of debris in their area of jurisdiction in the Harbour. Schauppner recommended approaching the representatives from Orange County Public Works who recently did a presentation on water quality initiatives for the Commission regarding this and to invite them to attend the Earth Day event. Justen said that he would follow-up with the representatives.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Wood, seconded by Schauppner, at 5:35 p.m. to adjourn to the March 27, 2025, meeting.

The motion carried by the following vote, 5-0:

AYES: Milligan, Nielsen, Schauppner, Williams, Wood

NOES: None

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