



MEETING MINUTES

HARBOUR COMMISSION

**Thursday, December 9, 2021
Room B7, Lower Level
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648**

WILLIAM LARKIN, Chair
MICHAEL VANVOORHIS, Vice Chair
KIMBERLEY MILLIGAN, Board Member
CHRIS NIELSEN, Board Member
CRAIG SCHAUPPNER, Board Member

COUNCIL LIAISON

DAN KALMICK, Councilmember Liaison
ERIK PETERSON, Councilmember Liaison

STAFF

SCOTT HABERLE, Fire Chief
ERIC DIETERMAN, Marine Safety Battalion Chief
KEVIN JUSTEN, Senior Administrative Analyst

CALLED TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Nielsen

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Larkin, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis
Commissioners Absent: Milligan

Staff Present: Eric McCoy, Kevin Justen, Terry Tintle, Jimmy Hoang, Kenny Waldecker, Thoby Archer, Jim Merid, Ashley Wysocki

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT ITEMS

- A) Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 28, 2021

MOTION: A motion was made by Schauppner, seconded by Nielsen, to approve meeting minutes dated October 28, 2021.

The motion carried by the following vote, 4-0:

AYES: Larkin, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis

NOES: None

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A) Harbour Enforcement Presentation, *Mike Bartlett, Marine Safety Captain and Eric McCoy, Fire Division Chief*

Bartlett provided an overview of enforcement in Huntington Harbour. It included the enforcement history, authority for actions and the command structure and functions of the Marine Safety Division. He also highlighted the types and numbers of enforcement actions and how violations are addressed by Marine Safety staff. VanVoorhis asked if people can ride on the bows of boats if there is a bow railing. Bartlett said this is permissible as long as there is a railing. Larkin asked about people with their legs hanging over the bow and Bartlett said this is not allowed because it is dangerous. Larkin asked if it is recommended that private docks have no trespassing signs posted. Bartlett it is recommended if there is a problem with people accessing the private dock who shouldn't. Nielsen asked if freeboarding/towing is allowed. Bartlett said no towing is allowed in the Harbour. Schauppner asked if hovercraft are allowed in the Harbour. Bartlett said these have become more popular recently, but they are not allowed because they exceed the five (5) MPH speed limit. VanVoorhis asked about people using jet packs in the Harbour, attached to a jet ski, and Bartlett responded that although this activity can be dangerous there is currently no prohibition regarding it. Bartlett noted that although the Harbour was designed primarily for navigation uses, recreational activities seem to be increasing and in the future there could be a need for a municipal ordinance to address the increased and varied uses. VanVoorhis said this could be a Commission initiative in 2022. Archer said additional restrictions on activities that would be considered dangerous would require an ordinance and McCoy said the Harbour Jurisdiction Study will help to identify who would have responsibility for enforcement in some of these areas. Schauppner asked if the data regarding enforcement actions and incidents could be provided to Commissioners and McCoy said he would send it.

- B) Harbor Report, *Eric McCoy, Fire Division Chief, Kevin Justen, Senior Administrative Analyst*

Justen provided an update on the Harbour Commission website and said that almost all of the 78 items Commissioners requested be included in the site have been completed. He highlighted changes since last month and revisions that will occur in the future. Commissioners previously asked about the amount of traffic on the site and Justen reported that in the six (6) months since it went live on May 28th, it has had 781 page visits. These visits average two (2) minutes and eight (8) seconds per visit. He said that website usage will increase as it becomes more known in the community and timely information and additional features are added.

Justen gave an update on the appointment of new Commissioners. The vacancies were advertised from October 1-29, in conformance with the Maddy Act, and four (4) applications were received. These were reviewed by the two Commission Council Liaisons and two will be recommended to the City Council on December 21, 2021. Justen said that the names are not yet public, but Fire Department Principal Administrative Analyst Bonnie To will be providing the

City Council agenda to Commissioners when it is published on December 15th. At that time the names will become public. If approved by the City Council, the two (2) new members will take their oath of office at the January 27, 2022 meeting.

C) Public Works Update, *Terry Tintle, Beach Operations Supervisor*

Tintle provided a status report on the new pumpout station. He said it is currently operable and the company it was obtained from, Kinko, is based in San Diego and is considered one of the best in this field. He noted that the factory staff installed it and showed slides, highlighting pump parts and functions. The pump provides the ability to track usage and will be maintained at 100 hours. Since it was installed four (4) weeks ago, it has only been used five (5) hours.

D) Harbour Commission Strategic Plan - Projects Update, *Kevin Justen, Senior Administrative Analyst*

Justen provided an update on the Harbour Commission Strategic Plan. He said since it was approved last January nine (9) out of 10 presentations have been provided to the Commission and six (6) of the seven (7) project initiatives have been completed. The remaining project and presentation is the Harbour Jurisdiction Study and the project is progressing well. Justen said it should be ready for presentation at the January meeting, or February at the latest. Justen also said that the report could include follow-up recommendations, which could be Commission projects in 2022.

E) Election of Harbour Commission Chair and Vice Chair, *Chairman Larkin*

VanVoorhis recommended that the Commission conduct the election of the new Chair and Vice-Chair at the January 27, 2022 meeting. He said because there will be seven (7) Commissioners in attendance, as compared to four (4) at the current meeting, this would allow more participation by Commission members. A motion to do this was made by Schauppner and seconded by Nielsen.

The motion carried by the following vote, 4-0:

AYES: Larkin, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis

NOES: None

STAFF COMMENTS

Hoang informed the Commission that in response to their direction at the October meeting the contact information for the 15 homeowners associations in Huntington Harbour was obtained and staff can now use this information for informing Harbour residents of information that would be of interest to them. Justen said two slides on this will be provided to Commissioners the following day. Schauppner said it would be good to provide these associations timely information, such as updates on the pump out station or Harbour Commission web site, for distribution to their members through their newsletters. Larkin asked if the contacts are the management companies and Hoang said they are.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

VanVoorhis inquired about the status of the dilapidated boat on Humboldt Island, for which pictures had previously been provided to Commission members. Hoang said Code Enforcement staff reached out to the property owners, who also own the vessel, and Harbour

Patrol about this boat. The owners contacted a company to pump out the water that was causing it to sink and it has lifted considerably in the water. At this time, there is a question about who has jurisdiction for this boat. Larkin asked what is the enforcement challenge in addressing this and Hoang responded that the City's municipal code does not provide for this. Larkin said that there are grants that homeowners can use to address this type of problem and asked if staff thought this resource could be of assistance. McCoy said Cal Boating and Waterways has this type of program and information about it will be provided to the homeowner. Larkin asked if he could also receive the information and also asked if any fluids leaked from the boat into the Harbour. McCoy and Hoang said they did not see any evidence of this.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Larkin and seconded by Nielsen at 5:43 p.m. to adjourn to the January 27, 2022 meeting.

The motion carried by the following vote, 4-0:

AYES: Larkin, Nielsen, Schauppner, VanVoorhis

NOES: None

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Harbour Commission will be scheduled for January and will be held at 5:00 PM in Room B-8 at the Huntington Beach Civic Center.