

MINUTES OF THE PORT OF BELLINGHAM
COMMISSION MEETING
HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2022
REGULAR IN-PERSON/REMOTE MEETING

Present: Commissioners:
President Bobby Briscoe
Vice President Ken Bell
Secretary Michael Shepard

Staff: Rob Fix Executive Director
Jon Sitkin Port Legal Counsel
Brian Gouran Environmental & Planning Director Services
Terry Ilahi Senior Property Manager
Adrienne Hegedus Sustainability Program Manager
Carey Jones Executive Administrator

2:00 PM OPEN PUBLIC MEETING, IMMEDIATELY RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At approximately 2:00 PM, President Bobby Briscoe opened the public meeting, read the closed session announcement, then immediately recessed to executive session and stated he will resume the open public meeting at 4:00 PM.

4:00 PM OPEN PUBLIC MEETING, ROLL CALL

At approximately 4:00 PM, President Bobby Briscoe closed the executive session and re-opened the public meeting, and announced that all three Commissioners were present.

4:00 PM PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Jim Kyle president of the Working Waterfront Coalition gave notice of a presentation they will be giving on April 19, 2022 on the industry based state certified apprenticeship program they will be kicking off this September 2022. Jim also announced a fundraising event to be held on April 12 & 13, 2022 at the Drayton Harbor Oyster Company in Blaine at 3pm and 6:30pm.

Dan Tucker announced he will be taking over as program manager with the Working Waterfront Coalition. Dan shared that UnCruise Adventures is looking to bring spring and fall departures out of Bellingham starting in 2023.

COMMISSIONER BRISCOE READ THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULES

- Marina Advisory Committee (MAC) – April 12 @ 6 PM on Zoom
- Bellingham International Airport Advisory Committee (BIAAC) – April 14 @ 4 PM on Zoom

CONSENT AGENDA-

- A. Approve minutes from the February 15, 2022 regular scheduled commission meeting.
- B. Commission's authorization to sell vessels, pursuant to Resolution No. 1349.
- C. Authorize the Executive Director to sign the land acquisition purchase from Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for BLI to meet FAA Runway Safety Area standards.
- D. A motion authorizing the Executive Director to sign a letter providing Notice of Termination to Western Washington University and the Western Crossing Development Corporation terminating the Memorandum of Understanding and dissolving the Western Crossing Development Corporation.

March 15, 2022

Page 2

- E. Motion by the Port Commission to approve a Commercial Lease with Birdon America, Inc. for 3,225 SF in Fairhaven Station.
- F. Motion by the Port Commission to approve a Consent to Assignment of Lease from Point Roberts Press, Inc.'s to Timothy J. Vande Vegte, Settlor and Trustee of TVV Family Trust for leasehold property in Blaine Harbor.
- G. A motion authorizing the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 5 to the Personal Services Agreement with VEDA Environmental to increase the scope and budget.

Motion: Approve Consent Agenda items A - G

Discussion: No discussion by the commission.

Motion approved with a 3 - 0 Vote

PRESENTATION

1. Waterfront District Update

Discussion: Director of Environmental & Planning Services Brian Gouran gave a general update on the Waterfront District. Brian highlighted the Marine Trades Expansion and Master Planning, as well as a Downtown Waterfront Update which included the revised MDA, Waterfront Residential, Upcoming Harcourt Projects, Interim Uses, Boardmill RFP, Millworks Project, & Alcohol Plant Assessment.

Commissioner Shepard asked if the Port is able to accommodate for any moorage slips in the basin. Brian said he believes there will be room for moorage options.

Commissioner Shepard asked for the rough in-water acreage versus upland acreage. Brian said roughly 17 acres on both sides.

Commissioner Shepard asked if the Port is going to create a new outfall at the log pond. Brian said they are currently evaluating that, some options are multiple outfalls or tapping into the city system.

Commissioner Bell asked about the day moorage location. Brian said the Ports design team is currently working under a contract for visitor moorage.

Commissioner Briscoe what area would the stormwater line service. Brian said right now it would mostly serve the log pond area.

Commissioner Bell said he would love to see a connection trail between Boulevard Park and the Waterfront.

ACTION ITEMS

Motion to approve Resolution No.1402 authorizing the sale of an additional 2,200 square feet of real property to Harcourt Developments Residential Bellingham, LLC for Project No.2 and authorize the Executive Director to execute any and all documents necessary to complete the sale.

March 15, 2022

Page 3

Discussion: Director of Environmental & Planning Services Brian Gouran gave some background on the agreement and gave his recommendation to move forward with a sale of about 20SF of property.

Motion approved with a 3 - 0 Vote

END OF MEETING PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comments

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Bell said he is taking another run at the housing proposal (to increase housing) put forward by the Business Development Committee.

Commissioner Shepard gave a brief update from the Small Cities Partnership. Michael said they had a productive conversation with Senator Cantwell's office about infrastructure money that is coming down the pipe that we need to keep tabs on. These funds are primarily coming from the Department of Transportation grants.

Executive Director Rob Fix said himself and Commissioner Briscoe met with AltaGas LTD, as they had issues with the Northwest Clean Air Agency due to the previous companies (Petra Gas) reporting practices and operations. The new owners (AltaGas LTD) assured the Port that they are working on a solution and they are going to make it right.

Sustainability Program Manager Adrienne Hegedus gave a brief impromptu update on solar. Adrienne said the Port put a large solar array at the Bellingham Cruise Terminal last year. There is a link on the Ports website where you can check the daily production from the panels. The Port is seeking new project funding/grant opportunities in the community.

Commissioner Briscoe asked for an update on the operations at the Sumas site. Senior Property Manager Terry Ilahi reported that Teal Jones and Mountain View Reload are operational and back up and running with only minor repairs left from the natural disaster flooding that took place in November of 2021.

All three Commissioners confirmed that the April 5, 2022 Board of Commissioners Meeting will be cancelled due to schedules around Spring Break. The next Commission Meeting will be held April 19, 2022.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:14 PM



President/Vice President



Secretary