

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM
MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025
HARBOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
PORT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Robert Brooks	Loren Kapp
Peter Border	Jim Kyle
Paul Burrill	

Committee Members Absent:

Jace Cotton
Julie Winkler

Committee Members Excused:

Faith Worthley
Ross Tennant

Visitors/Guests:

Mike Merrick

Port Representatives present

Pam Taft
Aaron Bisson
Andy Peterson
Tiffany DeSimone

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Minutes

The minutes of the January meeting were approved by the group.

Public Comment

Mike Merrick is representing the small trailerable boats that were formerly subleasing space at the former City Mac building and is currently working with the Port's Real Estate Dept to find a location for the sailing boats.

Dockside Feedback

Paul passed along a note from Ross Tennant expressing his appreciation for staff in shoveling snow and keeping pathways open during the last snowfall.

Paul mentioned that Tyler Schroeder from the Port's Economic Development department was scheduled to present to the MAC an overview of what his department has been doing, but at the last minute was called away to attend to other Port business.

Granite Presentation

Tiffany gave a Power Point presentation on the recent Commission action with Granite Construction (attached).

Upcoming Events

Staff reported on these upcoming events:

- Opening Day of Boating Season May 3rd
 - o Pancake breakfast, swap meet
- Blessing of the Fleet- Blaine Harbor May 4th
- Blessing of the Fleet- Squalicum Harbor May 10th
 - o Location either Squalicum Boathouse or Fishermen's Pavilion (depending on weather)

Staff Updates

Tiffany announced that she will be presenting the proposed Rules and Regs changes to the Port Commission at their March 4 meeting and at their March 18th meeting will be asking for a motion to approve.

In the coming months staff will begin discussion on moorage rates and will be welcoming thoughts and input when the time comes. Peter Border asked if we would be talking about Liveaboard rates and Tiffany responded that there will be discussion and added that most marinas are moving away from liveaboards. It was also mentioned for informational purposes only to look at ACF rates in Alaska and see what increases have been. Tiffany said that staff will be bringing forward various market studies when we start having these discussions.

Tiffany mentioned that Stephanie Wiley, the Community Outreach Supervisor will come to the May MAC meeting and will share all of the Port's upcoming events.

Paul Burrill brought up the topic of moving to meet quarterly with more content on the agenda. The members' time is valuable and staff wants to provide more content for the group to discuss and feels that moving more toward a quarterly schedule would offer that opportunity. Additionally, the start time was discussed as starting earlier in the day, possibly starting at 2pm. Tiffany mentioned that the Bellingham International Airport Advisory Committee meets quarterly and via Zoom. It was talked about at a previous meeting about doing a hybrid meeting (in person and zoom), but Tiffany explained that we aren't set up to a hybrid so it's the group's decision to either go 100% zoom or 100% in person. No motion was made but discussion will continue.

Aaron mentioned the paving will be occurring in the boat launch parking lot and since paving is done during the warmer months, staff will be working hard on coordinating closures since there likely will be a lot of vehicles to contend with.

Jim Kyle announced the Working Waterfront Coalition meeting tomorrow night and inviting everyone if they'd like to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.