

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM
MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING
TUESDAY, September 24, 2025
HARBOR CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM
PORT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

Minutes

Committee Members Present:

Paul Burrill

Faith Worthley

Peter Border

Rob Brooks

Loren Kapp

Jim Kyle

Mike Merrick

Committee Members Absent:

Jace Cotton

Committee Members Excused:

Ross Tenant

Visitors/Guests:

Commissioner Bell

Port Representatives present

Tiffany DeSimone, Aaron Bisson, Andy Peterson, Pam Taft

Roll Call

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

Minutes

The minutes of the May 13, 2025 meeting were approved by the group.

Public Comment

None

Dockside Feedback

Summer Boating Show and Tell

Paul provided an opportunity to share anything marina related that committee members might have seen during the summer recess. Peter briefly mentioned the unfortunate commercial fishing accident this summer at Point Roberts.

Race Week Update

Aaron provided an overview of Race Week in Bellingham Bay. Aaron said the event was well attended considering a number of Canadian participants were not in attendance. He said that he received positive comments about the event which was confirmed by Mike Merrick. The Port will be working with the event coordinator to fine tune the program for future events held at Squalicum Harbor.

SeaFeast Update

Andy reminded the committee that SeaFeast would be held at Squalicum Harbor on September 27-28th from 10 AM to 5 PM. Andy mentioned that the event had grown to over 150 vendors and would include boat tours, marine safety demonstrations, food vendors, music, chainsaw carving and family events.

Harbor Rates / Moorage Model Review

Pam presented the moorage model slide show that was shared with the Board of Commissioners. The slide show was also emailed out to the Committee membership on September 25, 2025 and again on October 10, 2025 with the September meeting minutes. Pam went over each slide and explained the moorage rate surveys that are conducted each year. The Committee spent time discussing how the active commercial fishing rate is calculated and noted that the Port of Bellingham has maintained the lowest commercial rate in Puget Sound. The group also discussed the storage rates and possibly reviewing the implementation of a liveaboard fee. Pam explained the timeline for gathering input in order to be prepared for presentation to the Commission in March 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.