

**MINUTES OF THE PORT OF BELLINGHAM  
COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD TUESDAY October 8, 2019  
HARBOR CENTER ROOM  
1801 ROEDER AVENUE, BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

CONSENT AGENDA  
ITEM #   A  

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Present:	Commissioners:	
	President	Bobby Briscoe
	Vice President	Ken Bell
	Secretary	Michael Shepard
Staff:	Rob Fix	Executive Director
	Brian Gouran	Environmental & Planning SVCS Director
	Tamara Sobjack	Director of Finance
	Sunil Harman	Director of Aviation
	Don Goldberg	Economic Development Director
	Elizabeth Monahan	Human Resources Director
	Shirley McFearin	Real Estate Director
	Alan Birdsall	Strategic Project Manager
	Terry Ilahi	Senior Property Manager
	Brady Scott	Senior Property Manager
	Judy Harvey	Senior Property Manager
	Frank Chmelik	Port Legal Counsel
	Mike Hogan	Public Affairs Administrator
	Carey Jones	Executive Assistant

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**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING, ROLL CALL AND IMMEDIATELY RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION** - At approximately 2:30 p.m. the regular meeting was opened, roll was taken and immediately recessed to executive session. The purpose of the executive session was to discuss potential real estate for consideration of sale, purchase or lease pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1) (c). The executive session was expected to last approximately 2 hours with no formal action taken by the Commission during the executive session.

**4:30 PUBLIC MEETING, ROLL CALL-** At approximately 4:32 p.m., President Bobby Briscoe opened the public meeting and announced that all 3 Commissioners were present.

**Advisory Committee Announcements**

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD-**

Ivan Schierling, an Instructor at MakerSpace shared his concern about BTC raising the rent in the MakerSpace by 4 times the current rate and only getting half of the square footage. He said the space is very important to him personally, as he was offered a job when he didn't have one. He enjoys working with the community and making things; it is a useful space and would be a shame if it had to go. Executive Director Rob Fix clarified that MakerSpace is renting from BTC, not the POB.

Kim Perry, President at Bellingham Technical College. She moved to Bellingham 4 years ago, when the Technology Center was being finalized. She mentioned the rate

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increase and said BTC has embraced them and they fully understand, as they are seeing increases at the other centers in Whatcom County. She encouraged the Commissioners to approve the renewal of the lease, so they can continue to provide Economic Development opportunities to their students.

Raquel Rutherford, a leadership volunteer at the MakerSpace for the past year. The space gave her a sense of community and a place for a creative outlet. Since she joined the leadership team, she has recognized how viable the space is. The space provides a communication hub for TAG NW and the 4-H Club, and they also receive hundreds of visitors. They are asking for a continued relation with BTC and the POB as a valued part of MakerSpace Community.

Scott Sanderson said that supporting the MakerSpace helps the POB fulfill their Mission Statement. The space helps young people gain skills, compete in the international marketplace, and inspire them to create careers of the future. He said he has personally been to the space, it is a valuable resource that our community is benefiting from. He asked the POB to step in and help, so the community does not lose this valuable resource.

Craig Cooper encouraged the support of dry stack storage along the Bellingham Waterfront. Dry stack storage creates many jobs including operators, marine trades, technicians, part(s) sales/service, boat sales manager(s) and fractional partnerships to name a few. These companies employ entry level boat detailers; one operator employs 80 staff members, and 60 seasonal staff between their various locations. Demands for this type of facility grows YOY, the current local market is a 4 year wait for a facility like this. He believes a dry stack storage facility would be successful in Bellingham. He asked the Commissioners to please consider this (Dry Stack Storage) a viable option for Bellingham. It would support Marine Trade, Economic Development, and would provide another avenue for the people to have access to the Waterfront.

David Marshall volunteers at the MakerSpace as a way to meet people, he has found an amazing community there. He said he feels lucky to be a member of the MakerSpace in Bellingham, he has visited others and Bellingham's facility is a real jewel. The staff and volunteers that are at the space know how to use the equipment and are willing to help others learn to use it. The rent increase for this space is difficult for a non-profit and they are looking for a solution so they can continue to operate.

Jeremiah Mcloy is a Board Member, and the only staff member (Part Time Operations Manager) of the MakerSpace. He is here to talk about the sublease agreement they received from BTC. The overhead expenses would increase by over 450%, this increase is going to make it very difficult as a non-profit/volunteer run organization to make ends meet. The amount of things this organization has accomplished in this community is incredible, including beautifying the city. He is petitioning the Ports help to do whatever is within their power to keep the MakerSpace open.

Julia Aiken, a small business owner that depends on the MakerSpace as a prototype facility for her business. Her company is called the Autism Project, and they develop therapeutic technology for children with autism. Her company's mission is to put those devices into the local schools to help keep children out of restraint and isolation. She

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has taught machining classes at WWU for the last 3 years. One of her frustrations is she is learning that she can't use state resources to benefit a private business. She requested the Commissioners to postpone the approval of the contract with BTC, until MakerSpace has an opportunity to meet with the POB.

Jason Davies is a long time member of the MakerSpace. He knows this facility supports the Ports Mission Statement. It personally helps him run and operate his business. This space offers tools to members of our community who would otherwise not have access to. The MakerSpace deserves the Ports attention, so they can continue to run their operation.

Mark Allyn puts his vote in favor of the MakerSpace, to help facilitate small businesses and allow members of this community to explore with tools that they could not afford to have on their own.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approve the minutes of the September 17, 2019 regular and September 25, 2019 special commission meeting.
- B. Approve the Executive Director to enter into insurance contracts for the renewal of the Port's liability and auto insurance coverage for the policy period October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.
- C. Approve the Harbor Land Lease with Squaticum Yacht Club for approximately 3,300 square feet of property located at Squaticum Harbor.
- D. Approve the authorization of the Executive Director to enter into a Toxics Cleanup Integrated Planning Grant agreement with the Department of Ecology to provide \$200,000 in State funding toward programming and planning activities for the Bellingham Healthy Housing project at the Lignin parcel in the Waterfront District.
- E. Notice of awarded Public Works Contract.
- F. Approve the Executive Director to execute the Termination of Lease Agreement between Port of Bellingham and Best Recycling, Inc. for Suite 240 (964 SF office) in the Bayview Center Building, 12 Bellwether Way and finding that the termination is fair to the Port and in the public interest.
- G. Approve the Executive Director to execute the New Commercial Lease between Port of Bellingham and Kelly Crenshaw PsyD, a sole proprietor, dba Cascade Neuropsychology for Suite 240 (964 SF office) in the Bayview Center Building, 12 Bellwether Way.

Motion to approve Consent Agenda items A - E.

Discussion: Secretary Michael Shepard had a comment on item (D), the \$50,000 assessment fee, and \$140,000 for planning. Does the Port expect to use that money in house or hire consultants, or is the team already working on this project. Director of Environmental Planning Services Brian Gouran explained that for this particular grant the Port plans to hire a team of consultants that will do a vast majority of the work, which would include Land Use Surveying, Geo and Enviro Consulting, Urban Planning; that would ultimately support Mill Works LLC group and their vision. Commissioner Shepard asked Brian if the proposed amount is enough to get through the key steps.

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Brain responded yes, the Mills Works LLC is doing some of their own work, as well as some of the cost could be absorbed through future grants.

Vice President Ken Bell mentioned that the insurance rates are going up, the Port had a 13% increase in the auto liability policy, 8% increase in excess liability, and a 7% increase on an annual basis. That's huge and just underscores where insurance is going' the Port need to keep this on their radar. Commissioner Shepard asked the Port if this cost is due to added vehicles, or inflation. Executive Director Rob Fix, said the Market is driving the cost; Director of Finance Tamara Sobjack said this is also due to an increase in vehicles.

Port Legal Counsel Frank Chmelik suggested to split the vote; A – E and then F & G.

Motion approved 3-0 Vote

Motion to approve Consent Agenda items F & G.

Discussion: Ken Bell could not vote on items F & G, due to personal interest.

Motion approved 2-0 Vote

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Waterfront Art Proposal Update**

Public Affairs Administrator Mike Hogan introduced Project Director Lisa Citron from A Child's Point of View, she is here today to get support from the Commissioners to move forward with a new project she is working on with her class over the next couple of months. She brought in 1 sign, and 1 of 25 pieces of art work that will be used along the waterfront trail (ASB Pond). The focus of the art work is how the kids feel/think about habitat loss. She proposed a new project for next June; they want to put up a temporary (Big) mural on the alcohol building. She shared that one child thought up of an idea 15 years ago, and just this week released his invention. A device that sucks up trash from the water like a vacuum cleaner. She said it is important for us to listen to children. She plans on having the 4<sup>th</sup> graders interview members of our community about the effects of global warming and put their quotes on a mural for all to read. She asked for the Ports support to approve a (Big) mural.

Discussion: Secretary Michael Shepard thanked Lisa for sharing, and said the metal cutouts will look good along the ASB Pond trail. Commissioner Shepard asked if the cutouts are currently at the Maritime Heritage Park, and are going to be brought to the ASB Pond. Lisa responded yes, and that Ram Construction once again has volunteered to relocate the artwork. This will take place in the next week or so. Commissioner Shepard commented on the Alcohol Plant paper mural; is it adhered to the building and then just naturally decays over time and then falls off. Lisa confirmed that is correct. Commissioner Shepard asked Public Affairs Administrator Mike Hogan if staff has worked on this proposal. Mike said he did discuss the terms with Lisa, and she is here to get the Commissioners blessing to move forward with fundraising for this project. Commissioner Shepard said a project like this will benefit all ages and bring more community members down to the Waterfront. Vice President Ken Bell asked for

confirmation that this was just a presentation, Executive Director Rob Fix confirmed that no action will take place at this time. President Bobby Briscoe said there is a public process that needs to be followed before this project can be presented and voted on. Commissioner Briscoe said it sounds like a good project and he would like to see it move forward.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. Authorize the Executive Director to approve an Interlocal Operating Agreement between the Port of Bellingham, Port of Skagit, Port of Whitman, Port of Ridgefield, Port of Kalama and Port of Pasco.**

Motion: Motion authorizing the Executive Director to approve an Interlocal Operating Agreement between the Port of Bellingham, Port of Skagit, Port of Whitman, Port of Ridgefield, Port of Kalama and Port of Pasco.

Discussion: Executive Director Rob Fix said the Port is actively in phase 1 of installing fiber optic cable in the Kendal area. Part of that process is operating and marketing that fiber; POB along with 5 other Ports are deciding the best way to do that. They have decided to come together and establish an entity of Ports to house the staff members that would do those activities. Rob said they have worked with a legal team and formed an LLC, the 6 Ports will own that LLC. The initial investment from the POB is \$200,000 to capitalize that entity. Those funds will go towards buying equipment, payroll and other related expenses. With the cash flow from that over 5 years, the Port will end up with more capital in that entity than the \$200,000. There is a low point where that entity has a little over \$200,000, because early on the burn rate is expected to be greater than the revenues. But over time if the projections play out, the Port will be very well off, and have a good steak in this entity that will return the initial \$200,000 investment. Rob asked the Commissioners to approve this transaction.

Vice President Ken Bell asked about the Port of Whitman's contribution, Executive Director Rob Fix said they will be contributing equipment that is of equal value to the monetary donations from the other Ports. President Bobby Briscoe thinks it is a great idea. Anytime the Ports can work together and save money, it is good business.

Motion approved with a 3-0 Vote

- 2. Authorize the Western Crossing Innovation Park Development Plan per the terms of the second amendment to the Western Crossing Memorandum of Understanding between the Port of Bellingham and Western Washington University.**

Motion: A motion to approve the Western Crossing Innovation Park Development Plan per the terms of the second amendment to the Western Crossing Memorandum of Understanding between the Port of Bellingham and Western Washington University.

Discussion: Environmental & Planning SVCS Director Brian Gouran gave some background and collaborative efforts to date. Economic Development Director Don Goldberg gave some insight on the working group process and activities, the framework

and vision statement, and what a Public-Private Partnership Innovation Park would look like. Brian went over the next steps, and asked the Commissioners to approve the Western Crossing Innovation Park Development Plan.

Secretary Michael Shepard thanked the staff for the update. Commissioner Shepard said that he has toured this type of Innovation Park, and has seen all the good it does for the community, including the energy and partnerships that go with this type of project. Commissioner Shepard asked if this facility is going to need the allotted 6 acres. Environmental & Planning SVCS Director Brian Gouran said, as we move forward and the plan unfolds, more of these types of questions will get answered. Commissioner Shepard asked for an update on the Hannegan site. Executive Director Rob Fix said the last contingency was just lifted, and it closes in 45-60 days. Commissioner Shepard asked if WWU faculty and staff are going to be supportive moving forward with this project. A member of Western Washington University's staff said because this is a model, it will be much more appealing to campus broadly, and he personally feels it would go over well. Vice President Ken Bell started off by saying what an incredible team, and thank you. The team has a focused effort, continued commitment, and great discussions. President Bobby Briscoe is excited for the movement he is seeing on this project, it is more organized and should take us into the future if it is developed properly.

Motion approved with a 3-0 Vote

**3. Authorize the Executive Director to approve Material Modifications No.1 to the Project Memorandum for Harcourt's Waterfront Residential project, in accordance with Section 5.2 of the Master Development Agreement.**

Motion: Authorize the Executive Director to approve Material Modification No. 1 to the Project Memorandum for Harcourt's Waterfront Residential project, in accordance with Section 5.2 of the Master Development Agreement.

Discussion: Environmental & Planning SVCS Director Brian Gouran shared that in March, 2018 the Port of Bellingham approved a Project Memorandum prepared by Harcourt Bellingham, LLC for a Waterfront Residential development project within the Downtown Waterfront. Since that time, the Port has sold the approximately 1.7 acre parcel for this project to Harcourt and Harcourt is underway with project design and permitting. Harcourt has indicated that although permitting is proceeding, recent discussions with the City of Bellingham resulted in some design changes that impacted the Project Schedule. In accordance with the Master Development Agreement (MDA), any schedule change that could delay the Construction Start Date or Completion Date by more than 60 days represents a "Material Modification". Per the MDA, any Material Modification requires Port approval. On August 1, 2019 Harcourt provided the Port with a Notice of Material Modification and a proposed revised Project Schedule. Based on permitting timelines and the current understanding of the project, Port and Harcourt staff have developed a revised Project Schedule.

Secretary Michael Shepard said it is unpopular to provide an extension. Commissioner Shepard shared that he wants this project to be successful, but he is anticipating getting a lot of phone calls on the requested revised project schedule. The Port wants to see

evidence that they are a top priority for this development. Commissioner Shepard said there is a lack of local property management on site for successful project movement. The Director of Harcourt Bellingham, LLC Pat Power said their setbacks have been associated with permitting. With the said, the completion date has not changed. Pat said they have a dedicated local development team in Bellingham that is working to help move this project forward. Pat said they are fully committed, the next big milestone for Harcourt is the adoption of the master development plan. Commissioner Shepard said the local community likes to be informed/engaged and updated on these type of local developments, as it promotes goodwill. Pat said they intended on putting together a quarterly newsletter, and that is still their intention. Commissioner Shepard asked Pat if there is anything Harcourt can do to assure the Port they have the finances to proceed with this project. Pat said they have the finances to complete each project, as it moves forward.

Vice President Ken Bell said the Commissioners get the brunt of the negative feedback from the local community about the lack of progress on the waterfront projects. Commissioner Bell told Harcourt that they need to get a local representative to Bellingham to speak for their company. Commissioner Bell offered to personally help Harcourt get permits moved through the City of Bellingham. He asked Harcourt to elevate Whatcom County to the level of follow through that they are seeing in their other projects around the globe. Commissioner Bell asked Harcourt to put some resources here locally and put this project on the fast track.

President Bobby Briscoe thanked Harcourt for coming to Bellingham and for starting this project, he believes they will follow through and complete the project. Commissioner Briscoe said he does not personally care for the permit process at the City of Bellingham. Commissioner Briscoe said they do get a lot of heat about the lack of progress on this project. Commissioner Briscoe asked Harcourt to please do what they can to speed up this project.

Motion approved with a 3-0 Vote

**4. Authorize the Port Commission to approve a Renewal and Modification of IPZ Zone Research Facility Lease between the Port of Bellingham and Bellingham Technical College (BTC).**

Motion: Motion by the Port Commission to approve a Renewal and Modification of IPZ Zone Research Facility Lease between the Port of Bellingham and Bellingham Technical College (BTC).

Discussion: Executive Director Rob Fix told the Commissioners that the deal they are looking to approve is between the Port and Bellingham Technical College, the space is 10,000 SF in the F Street Warehouse. The primary difference in the agreement, is that BTC will be picking up all utilities. Secretary Michael Shepard asked if the rent is the same or equivalent, Senior Property Manager Terry Ilahi said the rent is equivalent. As like the past 10 years, the rent will continue to rise 4% annually. Terry gave a brief back ground, in 2008 the Port received a 1 million dollar grant for a research and technical facility, in 2009 the Port entered into a 10 year agreement with WWU and BTC for the facility. That agreement ends at the end of October. WWU will not be renewing, and

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BTC is going to lease the entire 10,000 SF property, with an option to sublease if they desire (with the Ports prior permission), and there is a signage provision.

Commissioner Shepard asked for more information on the IPZ Zone. Executive Director Rob Fix gave some background on the agreement from 2008. The Dean of BTC Ray Kubista said the current programs that are housed at the F Street facility are Composite, BA Engineering Technology, Operations Management, and in partnership with MakerSpace they have a NSF Grant where students are receiving scholarship money for 1 of 6 Engineering programs offered. Ray Kubista said BTC is trying to continue to grow the programs and develop partnerships. The ultimate goal is to get the students into jobs, utilize the SF and get more technology in the space for the students. Commissioner Shepard asked Ray if there is anything the Port can do to help. Ray said their current goal is to grow the program. He said the classes are at capacity, they need more room to grow the programs. Commissioner Shepard offered to be a part of a committee dedicated to growing this partnership and program. President Bobby Briscoe said he is glad to see education growing on the waterfront.

Motion approved with a 3-0 Vote

**5. Authorize the Commercial Lease and Project Development Agreement between the Port of Bellingham and Bellwether Harbor Investments LLP for the Ballroom at Bayview Center Building, 12 Bellwether Way.**

Motion: Motion by the Commission approving the Commercial Lease and Project Development Agreement between the Port of Bellingham and Bellwether Harbor Investments LLP for the Ballroom at Bayview Center Building, 12 Bellwether Way.

Discussion: Senior Property Manager Judy Harvey said that the new commercial lease and project development agreement terminates the Banquet space use agreement the last day of the month when the lease is executed; the new lease is effective the first day of the month following execution of the new lease and provides for expansion of the Ballroom. Estimated project cost is \$325,000. This transaction will result in a long term lease of 23 years. The amortization payment is effective on the first day of the month following substantial completion. The Port is to contribute 30% of the project cost. If the Commission does not approve the project cost and bid, the Port's commitment to expand the ballroom ceases. The concession fee more than covers the Port's 30% of the project cost over the term of the lease.

Secretary Michael Shepard said he likes the idea. Commissioner Shepard asked for the history of the building, and how the Port acquire it. Executive Director Rob Fix said the Port acquired it for a reasonable price, and he believes it has met or exceeded the financial projections they provided the Commission at the time. It has been a fairly good investment for the Port. Commissioner Shepard asked if there was a ballroom in the original building 14 years ago, Rob responded yes. Commissioner Shepard said there is a need for event space, there is not enough facilities available locally.

Vice President Ken Bell said he is in support 100% with the new commercial lease and project development agreement.

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President Bobby Briscoe did not have any questions/comments.

Motion approved with a 3-0 Vote

**6. Authorize the Port Commission to approve a Modification of Lease between the Port of Bellingham and Norman M. Walsh, doing business as Walsh Marine for premises at the Blaine Marine Industrial Area.**

Motion: Motion by the Port Commission to approve a Modification of Lease between the Port of Bellingham and Norman. M. Walsh, doing business as Walsh Marine for premises at the Blaine Marine Industrial Area.

Discussion: Senior Property Manager Brady Scott said Walsh Marine has operated the boatyard in Blaine for the last 8 years. In 2018 the Port and Wash Marine put together an agreement that provided the development of a new building to be constructed by the Port. The previous bid came in too high and there was only 1 bid. The new proposed lease modification provides acknowledgement of the Ports long term development of the Blaine Marina Industrial Area, adjusts the term from 40 to 6 year, and sets rent to a negotiated amount upon completion of the building. Brady said the Port staff recommends approval.

Secretary Michael Shepard thanked the Port staff for their creativity, figuring out a workable deal. Commissioner Shepard hopes the bid process is successful and are able to complete this project within budget. Commissioner Shepard hopes that some living wage job creation comes out of this project.

Vice President Ken Bell said this building is going to be an asset to the Port, which will be a huge benefit to the marina and that area.

President Bobby Briscoe said he is a huge supporter of the Blaine Industrial site, and this will help Blaine's economy. Commissioner Briscoe thanked the Port staff for their hard work.

Motion approved with a 3-0 Vote

**6:40 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD-**

Julia Aiken a small business owner in Bellingham, said the reality of the decision/decision the Commission made tonight will result in the MakerSpace closing. Getting that space at that location took 6 months of hard work, and she is very frustrated. Her other frustration is being able to use the equipment they need to continue their work/business. She said it comes down to the Public vs the Private sector. Executive Director Rob Fix said this was the first time he heard about this. Rob suggested the Port set up a meeting with MakerSpace to see if they can work out an agreement, and then report back to the Commission. Vice President Ken Bell said there is some history here that needs to be discovered before the Port and Commission can move forward. Secretary Michael Shepard told Julia that she should feel like she got something accomplished, because now the Port and Commission are aware of the importance of their organization and the success stories are on their radar.

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Commissioner Bell said they are willing to work with them to find a space, it might not be their current space, but the end result may even be better than their current situation.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

President Bobby Briscoe said the Hertz project on the Southside is creating some buzz, he asked for an update. Senior Property Manager Terry Ilahi said they are in the planning process working with the City of Bellingham for the permits. They received a lot of attention due to all the comments during the Public Comment period. Commissioner Briscoe asked about the height restrictions. Terry said they are working through some of the design changes; the Port does not regulate that, the City of Bellingham does. Terry said the Port would have an opportunity to request design plans if they entered into an agreement with the Port. Secretary Michael Shepard asked Terry to provide the Public Comments to all of the Commissioners.

President Bobby Briscoe asked Port Legal Counsel Frank Chmelik to define Workforce Housing.

President Bobby Briscoe asked Director of Finance Tamara Sobjack to give an A2 Bond Rating update, on how much money the Port has saved. Tamara reported in the summer of 2019, the Port refunded the 2010 Bonds with 10 years left. By turning in the bonds early the Port saved over \$2.5 million dollars over the next 10 years.

President Bobby Briscoe asked Environmental & Planning SVCS Director Brian Gouran if the Port has a Climate Action Plan, and if so, is the Port developing it in 2020. Brian said the Port has been working for a few years on getting their Sustainable Strategies Program up and running. The last couple of years the Port has been focusing on energy efficiency programs, energy production opportunities, and looking for potential grants. Brian said for the upcoming year, the Port is looking at a Climate Action Plan. Which will be a proposal for the Commission to consider, which will be policy statements and policy goals. The Port plans to hire a consultant team to help with the workload. Secretary Michael Shepard said he likes the work that is taking place, he reiterated that he believes a standing committee would be beneficial.

President Bobby Briscoe asked if anyone has heard of the Salmon in schools project (Friends of Salmon Education) in the local elementary schools. They get salmon eggs and put them in the classroom, the children get to watch them hatch and then release them locally. They are currently looking for funding (program cost \$2,000 per school) to be able to offer this program in more of our local schools. Commissioner Briscoe asked if the Port could help donate toward the program costs.

Secretary Michael Shepard shared that he appreciated Craig Cooper bringing up Dry Stack Storage, and that Executive Director Rob Fix and himself have had many conversations over this topic. It would allow the Port to have more useable space, and increase the number of boats in the harbor. Commissioner Shepard said people will pay a premium to use that space. President Bobby Briscoe pointed out that the waiting list for the harbor is for 40-50 footers, dry stack is for the smaller boats up to about 30 feet. Commissioner Briscoe proposed that if the Port did have a dry stack, they could reconfigure the harbor. Vice President Ken Bell said the Port already has one tenant

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that is interested, he believes the market space will come to the table before the Port can respond.

Secretary Michael Shepard reported that himself, and Executive Director Rob Fix just attended a productive Allegiant Conference. The takeaway; Allegiant is very cost sensitive, and he felt they appreciate the good work the Bellingham Airport (BLI) is doing. Commissioner Shepard said Rob and himself let Allegiant know that the Port appreciates the Anchorage and Tucson flights, and that they want to make sure those flights are successful. Commissioner Shepard said maybe the Port should consider upping the marketing strategies for these type of destination flights.

Secretary Michael Shepard reported on the recent WPPA Environmental Seminar that himself and some Bellingham Port employees attended. Commissioner Shepard said what stood out was that everyone appreciated/valued Tribal partnerships, it was a huge theme of the session. The WPPA is looking for individual input from Commissioners about how they think how WPPA should consider work around sustainability (focus on carbon reduction and admissions).

Vice President Ken Bell has no other business to discuss.

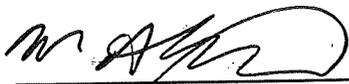
Executive Director Rob Fix announced that the Port would like to offer support to the Bellingham Tune Up Event that would take place next June. Rob asked the Commissioners if they were willing to sign a letter of support.

In closing President Bobby Briscoe said that Seafeast was a great success, he attended the event both days. Commissioner Shepard spoke with each vendor at the event, and they reported that the sales were higher on the second day even with the inclement weather. The event was very well organized and was a lot of fun. Secretary Michael Shepard proposed the idea of having a booth for the Commissioners to take shifts and make themselves available to speak to the public.

## ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:38 p.m.

  
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President

  
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Secretary