



DANA POINT HARBOR ADVISORY BOARD

The Voice of Our Community

Meeting Minutes: July 22, 2019, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Location: Dana Point Harbor Sailing and Events Center, Pilothouse Conference Room

In Attendance: James Lenthall (Chair), Jim Miller (Vice-chair), Donna Kalez, John Yamasaki, Greg McDowell, Marla Balmuth, Anne Eubanks (Secretary)

Absent: Daniel Pingaro, Robert Hartung, Stacey Blackwood (Ex-officio), Mark Denny (Ex-officio).

Invited Guests attending: Lt. Chris Corn (OC Sheriff's Dept.), Bryon Ward (DPHP), Joe Ueberroth (DPHP), Ralph Grippo (DPHP), James Campbell (OC Real Estate)

Minutes of the April 22, 2019, meeting were reviewed and approved without changes.

OCSD/Harbor Patrol Update

Lt. Chris Corn gave a Power Point presentation on OCSD Harbor Patrol operations, enforcement activities and priorities. At the end of the presentation he indicated he would send a copy to DPHAB via its Chair, James Lenthall. The Harbor Patrol provides around-the-clock law enforcement, marine firefighting and search/rescue services along the 43 miles of Orange County coastline (from Alamitos Bay to San Mateo Point), and within the county's three major harbors at Newport Beach, Sunset-Huntington, and Dana Point. They are the only law enforcement dive team in Orange County. They also participate in Operation Stonegarden and work with other agencies including the USCG, US Customs and Border Protection, and Drug Enforcement Agency patrolling the coast to increase protection against human and narcotic trafficking. Operation Stonegarden is funded by a Federal Grant. There was a Question and Answer session in which it was noted that harbor patrol is the biggest marina expense out of Fund 108. In recent years, 33% of total expenses were for Harbor Patrol. With the help of DPHAB, Supervisor Bartlett explored this expense category and was successful in gaining approval to reallocate some of the expense to the General State Fund. This expense is now only 18% of the total expenses of Fund 108. Other questions: Lt. Corn was asked if OCSD is on alert because of earthquakes. He indicated, no, if they get an alert, they monitor the bridges. What keeps deputies the busiest in Dana Point Harbor? Lt. Corn responded in summer it is mostly paddle boarders, and in winter, the biggest challenge is weather, sinking boats, and boats taking on water. A question was asked about the use of the sand bar and swimming in that area. He indicated it is illegal to swim in this area and OCSD is enforcing the law. The Board of Supervisors would need to change the current code to make it legal. Lt. Corn also addressed a concern regarding the 4th of July water wars. The biggest fear is injuries. He also indicated when asked about intimidation by seals on boats, that the OCSD would come to help whenever they were called, no matter the problem.

Harbor Revitalization/Commercial Core Update

Bryon Ward, DPHP, indicated there was not a lot to report since the last time he gave an update to the DPHAB. Their plan has received a certificate of compliance from the City of Dana Point. Now that the entitlements are done, they are moving through the design phase. They are planning two community workshops in August to get

input from the community on materials, colors, and open space design for the commercial core. The workshops will also include a short presentation and Q & A session. The next set of approvals needed will be for the site plans. DPHP want to tie in the new design to the personality of Dana Point. They want to create something completely different than anything else on the coast and continue the brand of Dana Point. They will work through the approval process with the City of Dana Point. They are hoping for approval by the first quarter to summer of 2020. Once approved, they will start the parking structure which will be a nine to twelve-month process, followed by the wharf, and then the waterfront. Lease renewals are going out to Merchants now which will match the construction phase schedule. DPHP is negotiating with tenants for longer term leases pinned down through the next design phase, and some merchants are talking to architects about design. DPHP has hired a new Assistant Property Manager, and they have extended hours and are now open on Saturday. Comments from the Merchants were favorable. They indicate parking is better, they are happy with refreshed signage and buildings, and they feel DPHP is invested in short term changes to make merchants lives better. Plans for the island will be pre-dominantly boater facilities, parks, and areas to beautify the harbor.

Harbor Revitalization/Marina Redevelopment Update

Joe Ueberroth, DPHP, also reported there is not a lot of new information to update. On the waterside, they are working within the confines of the existing LCP and are looking at every detail of it to mitigate questions. Any amendments could add an additional two years to the project. By the end of July, they will submit their application to the CA Coastal Commission. Their goal is to build this marina to last 66 years. There will be no steel in the floats, instead, they are using fiberglass. They are researching new advancement in pump outs, electricity, etc. and building for the needs of the future. They are also researching green initiatives to protect the environment. There is more to share but they don't want to talk about all the WOW factors now. Once all the approvals are in place, there will be seventeen phases of construction which will take five years. Their goal is to mobilize once and keep all boaters in the harbor. They are also working on the eel grass issue and seal deterrent and consulting the best resources to solve the problems. During the Q & A session, one boater expressed concerned over a lot of issues at Embarcadero including issues with launching, parking, and the wash racks. Mr. Ueberroth agreed they still have a lot to do to solve the problems at Embarcadero, but they are working to resolve them which is one of the reasons why they filed separate LCP's for the harbor and the dry storage.

Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.