

**CITY OF REDONDO BEACH
HARBOR COMMISSION MINUTES
Monday, April 8, 2024**

REGULAR MEETING OF THE HARBOR COMMISSION – 6:30 PM

A. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Harbor Commission was held at the City of Redondo Beach City Council Chambers and was called to order by Vice Chair Callahan at 6:30 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Abelman, Bauer, Carlson, Falk, Vice Chair Callahan

Commissioners Absent: Kilroy, Chair Chrzan

Officials Present: Greg Kapovich, W.E.D. Director
Mio Iwasaki, Administrative Analyst

C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Commissioner Falk led in the salute to the flag.

D. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Abelman, seconded by Commissioner Bauer, to approve the order of the agenda, as presented. Hearing no objections, Vice Chair Callahan so ordered.

E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS

E.1 For Blue Folder Documents Approved at the Harbor Commission Meeting

W.E.D. Director Kapovich reported there were no Blue Folder Items for tonight's meeting.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

F.1. APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING OF APRIL 8, 2024

F.2. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: MARCH 11, 2024

There were no public comments on the Consent Calendar.

Motion by Commissioner Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Abelman, to approve the Consent Calendar, as presented. Hearing no objections, Chair Callahan so ordered.

G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - None

H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

H.1 For eComments and Emails Received from the Public

Mark Hansen, King Harbor Yacht Club, spoke about the recent Opening Day Ceremonies.

There were no other public comments on this item.

I. EX PARTE COMMUNICATION - None

J. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

K. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None

L. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION

L.1. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 BUDGET

City Manager Witzansky presented an overview of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget process and noted that staff has not yet created a draft version of the budget. However, he is attending various Commission meetings to receive feedback from the Commissions regarding expenditure wish lists in preparation for the formal budget presentation to City Council; noted that a draft version of the budget would return to the Commission where they will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the delivered budget and ask questions of staff, subsequently; mentioned continued improvements in the structural imbalances in the tidelands and uplands funds; listed the capital work done in the Harbor to date and stressed the importance of being cautious in spending in the Harbor as the Tidelands and Uplands funds are tight.

Discussion followed regarding forming a subcommittee to generate a letter to City Council with specific budget requests and providing general feedback at this time for staff to consider in preparing the budget.

Commissioner Carlson mentioned funds that were set aside for Moonstone Park and asked for additional staffing for the W.E.D. Department in order to move the project forward.

City Manager Witzansky spoke about getting through the projects that are in progress, currently, including to complete and close the dredging project, the Seaside Lagoon design project, the boat launch ramp project, the paver stone project, the parking structure repair project, the parking lot project; stated that with the current funding needs, he would not feel comfortable recommending funding for staffing; addressed three new leases and continued leasing in Pier Plaza and indicated the need for additional time to focus on the project.

Commissioner Carlson suggested considering interns and students who may work project-based or for a season, at a reduced rate and mentioned the possibility of sponsoring data buoys.

Commissioner Bauer spoke in support of increased public art in the Harbor and mentioned installation of electric vehicle chargers.

City Manager Witzansky reported City Council will have a discussion in the next few months regarding the topic.

Vice Chair Callahan invited public comments on this item.

Mark Hansen, King Harbor Yacht Club, reported that some projects have already been funded; spoke about other potential sources of funding, including grants; discussed moving along relative to Seaside Lagoon; listed specific amenities suggested by the public including a wave pool to teach surfing, scuba lessons and model sailboats and felt that the information should be promoted with excitement.

There were no other public comments on this item.

L.2. QUARTERLY PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

RBFD Division Chief Jason May provided an update of RBFD Harbor Patrol statistics; addressed changes in tracking the data and discussed winter storm responses, dredging operations, additional Harbor Patrol personnel, a recent small diesel spill, removal of abandoned boats and an air/sea disaster drill.

Discussion followed regarding the process for managing abandoned vessels, enforcing vessel registration, boaters' licenses, inspection processes, review of water fire safety procedures, partnering with marina managers and the definition of "public assist".

There were no public comments on this item.

L.3. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

W.E.D. Director Kapovich presented the Administrative Report and details of Harbor-related items to include in the City Council Strategic Plan including Seaside Lagoon, the boat ramp, the breakwater repair, expansion of the Harbor Commission purview, the former Fun Factory site leasing strategy and asked the Harbor Commission to make suggestions to include in a letter to the City Council, of items to include in the strategic plan.

Commissioner Carlson encouraged fellow Commissioners to attend strategic planning sessions and noted the only thing he would act would be additional staff for the W.E.D. Department.

Commissioner Bauer reiterated his suggestion for electric vehicle chargers and commented on the Artesia and Aviation corridors.

W.E.D. Director Kapovich spoke about slow redevelopment in the Artesia and Aviation corridors; discussed changes that will occur when the General Plan is adopted; explained there is a lot of work to do but staff is addressing projects one-by-one and briefly addressed the PCH corridor.

Vice Chair Callahan requested placing a higher priority on the Sea-Bass project.

W.E.D. Director Kapovich reported that progress is being made on that project, working closely with the RBFD.

Commissioner Abelman asked about the possibility of allowing temporary uses for the former Fun Factory site such as a temporary Halloween Store to generate some sort of revenue.

W.E.D. Director Kapovich responded the site must remain empty so that Public Works can use it as accessible space to make the repairs of the adjacent structure.

Vice Chair Callahan invited public comments.

Mark Hansen, King Harbor Yacht Club, recalled the last Harbor Commission recommendations on this issue included funding for Seaside Lagoon; spoke about the Planning Commission's consideration of the expansion of the Harbor Commission's purview; addressed having a separate Harbor Department with a Harbor Director; talked about the Harbor Commission's recommendations regarding extending the south sea wall and commented on the Army Corps of Engineer drawings.

W.E.D. Director Kapovich summarized direction to continue to seek funding for Seaside Lagoon, explore creative ways for increasing staffing (i.e., interns, students), develop a leasing strategy for the former Fun Factory and move forward with the breakwater extension analysis.

Commissioners Abelman and Carlson offered to work with W.E.D. Director Kapovich on the letter to present to City Council with additional requests to include in the strategic Plan.

M. ITEMS FROM STAFF

M.1. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

W.E.D. Director Kapovich provided an update on the new public boat launch and the dredging project, noting delays in the latter because of problems with the barges.

Commissioner Carlson spoke about increased sand at the north end of the channel from winter storms.

Commissioner Abelman discussed exploring the possibility of receiving compensation from the dredging company for the delays.

W.E.D. Director Kapovich continued with the Director's Report addressing the status of the International Boardwalk pavers project; spoke about Opening Day at the King Harbor Yacht Club; discussed the Planning Commission's recommendations regarding the Harbor Commission purview and encouraged Members of the Commission to attend City Council meeting of April 16, 2024 when it will be presented to them.

W.E.D. Director Kapovich listed items to be considered during the Harbor Commission's next meeting in May.

Vice Chair Callahan invited public comments.

Mark Hansen, King Harbor Yacht Club, talked about discussing the distance between the pilings with the dredging company and addressed the Planning Commission's consideration of the Harbor Commission purview.

There were no other public comments on this item.

M. COMMISSION ITEMS AND REFERRALS TO STAFF

Commissioner Carlson mentioned money appropriated by Congressman Ted Lieu's office for the Redondo Beach Marina dock system replacement and W.E.D. Director Kapovich reported it is for the reconstruction of Basin 3 including the slips and the dock system.

Commissioner Carlson spoke about former Commissioner Light being in subcommittees and asked about the status of appointing new Commissioners to fill his vacancy.

W.E.D. Director Kapovich suggested placing on an upcoming agenda for discussion and possible action, to consider the vacancies and appoint replacements.

Commissioner Carlson referenced a document he submitted regarding unregistered boats and empty slips.

Motion by Commissioner Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Bauer, to receive and file the spreadsheet submitted by Commissioner Carlson related to unregistered boats and empty slips. Hearing no objections, Vice Chair Callahan so ordered.

Commissioner Carlson reported finding many empty slips and unregistered boats in the marinas and listed his findings.

W.E.D. Director Kapovich addressed challenges with proving a vessel is abandoned and working with marina operators and offered to reach out to Basin 3 leaseholders to reestablish expectations and report back to the Harbor Commission.

N. ADJOURNMENT – 7:55 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Abelman, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to adjourn the Harbor Commission meeting at 7:55 p.m. Hearing no objections, Vice Chair Callahan so ordered.

Chair Callahan adjourned the meeting to the next regular meeting of the Redondo Beach Harbor Commission to be held at 6:30 p.m. on May 13, 2024, in the Redondo Beach Council Chambers at 415 Diamond Street, Redondo Beach, California.

All written comments submitted via eComment are included in the record and available for public review on the City website.

Respectfully submitted:



Greg Kapovich
W.E.D. Director