

**CITY OF REDONDO BEACH  
HARBOR COMMISSION MINUTES  
Monday, April 11, 2022**

**A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

A Virtual meeting of the Harbor Commission was held pursuant to California Assembly Bill 361 and City Council action and was called to order by Chair Carlson at 6:30 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Bauer, Callahan, Chrzan, Kilroy, Light, Walters, Chair Carlson

Officials Present: Mike Witzansky, City Manager  
Greg Kapovich, W.E.D. Director  
Laurie Koike, W.E.D. Manager

**C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Commissioner Bauer led the assembly in the salute to the flag.

**D. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA**

Chair Carlson suggested reordering the agenda to hear Item No. L.2., prior to Item No. L.1.

*Motion by Commissioner Light, seconded by Commissioner Callahan, to approve the order of the agenda, as modified to hear Item No. L.2., prior to Item No. L.1. Hearing no objections, Chair Carlson so ordered.*

**E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS – ADDITIONAL BACK UP MATERIALS**

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

**F. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**F.1. APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2022**

**F.2. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: MARCH 14, 2022**

*Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Bauer, to approve the Consent Calendar, as presented. Hearing no objections, Chair Carlson 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**

There were no eComments or public communications received for non-agenda items.

### **I. EX PARTE COMMUNICATION - None**

### **J. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None**

### **K. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None**

### **L. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION**

#### **L.2. DISCUSS AND PROVIDE INPUT REGARDING POTENTIAL PROGRAMMING OF A FUTURE EDUCATIONAL FACILITY AT THE WATERFRONT**

W.E.D. Director Greg Kapovich introduced Thomas Grimm, CEO and President, Carlsbad Aquafarm, and deferred to him for a presentation.

Mr. Grimm narrated a PowerPoint presentation regarding himself and his organization and discussed the concept of Ocean Encounter, an educational facility including a fully immersive and experiential augmented reality system, aquafarms, aquaponics gardens, a studio kitchen, classes and exhibits, proposed at the waterfront, to be located at the previous Joe's Crab Shack site.

Mr. Grimm responded to questions regarding tearing down the existing building to build a new campus, farming abalone, working with special needs groups, the possibility of internships, engaging and training the public in restoration, establishing the organization as a non-profit, tapping into funding streams, the possibility of partnering with other non-profits and resources in the area, incorporating the on-the-water component, underwater robotics (drones), training docents, developing phases and reaching a large audience.

Chair Carlson expressed excitement about rebuilding the short pier in connection with the proposed project.

Mr. Grimm noted the need to know whether the City is serious about considering his proposal and spoke about integrating STEM educational activities.

Chair Carlson invited public comments.

Mark Hanson spoke favorably about the proposed program; expressed concerns about Seaside Lagoon taking over the former Joe's Crab Shack site; discussed waterfront education efforts by Julie Coll and mentioned the possibility of implementing the white seabass program.

There were no other public comments.

City Manager Witzansky commented on the flexibility of the proposed project and thanked the Commission for its support.

Chair Carlson spoke about integrating existing local programs.

Commissioner Light spoke about engaging community working groups.

Commissioner Bauer suggested charging an entrance fee would increase the value of the project.

*Motion by Commissioner Light, seconded by Commissioner Kilroy, to communicate to the City Council and the SWA that the Harbor Commission is supportive of the proposed plan; that the former Joe's Crab Shack site be preserved for the educational facility.*

*Amended Motion by Chair Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Bauer, to integrate Julie Cole's waterfront education program into the plan, programs such as the white sea bass program, the shark lab and other local educational activities. Motion carried, unanimously, by the following roll call vote:*

AYES: Bauer, Callahan, Chrzan, Kilroy, Light, Walters, Chair Carlson  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None  
ABSTAIN: None

#### **L.1. DISCUSS AND PROVIDE INPUT ON THE CITY'S FY 2022/2023 BUDGET**

City Manager Witzansky reported the City is in the process of developing the annual budget; noted it is due by May 15, 2022 and requested the Commission's input.

Chair Carlson referenced the Federal Infrastructure Plan; hoped it is not too late for King Harbor to receive federal funding; discussed the break wall and dredging; spoke about funding a study regarding the condition of the sea wall; commented on smaller projects addressed through the Harbor Amenities Plan; discussed increased Harbor Patrol staffing as well as increased staffing for harbor economic development.

Commissioner Callahan spoke about the splash wall down Yacht Club Way needing attention.

Commissioner Light referenced the Commission's input on strategic planning; spoke about working with the Corps of Engineers on the break wall; discussed a resiliency study relative to sea level rise; commented on the need to move the Moonstone Park project forward; believed the City should fund the sports fishing pier; suggested moving forward with the Harbor Amenities Plan; addressed the need to revitalizing the International Boardwalk and talked about making the Captain Kids site into a market hall and retaining/strengthening the Harbor Patrol and economic development in the Harbor. He added he would like to explore retention of sales tax and TOT for the Harbor.

In reply to Commissioner Kilroy's inquiry regarding the possibility of adding staffing, City Manager Witzansky reported most City departments are recovering from a former peak level of staffing (pre-pandemic) and spoke about spending on the waterfront being dependent on what the City can realistically afford.

Commissioner Kilroy noted the importance of keeping the waterfront, safe and mentioned the need to maintain and repair the parking garage.

City Manager Witzansky reported on the recent completion of an assessment and noted a recommendation to proceed with another phase of structural renovation to continue to extend the life of the parking garage.

Commissioner Bauer spoke about prioritizing projects that will make the harbor more attractive and discussed actions that would help in general upkeep of the harbor.

City Manager Witzansky addressed opportunities for grant funding for harbor projects and reported staff is in the process of developing an RFP for a consultant to help.

### **L.3. Director's Report**

#### **Previous Council Items**

- City Council approved the base design of the Skate Park
- City Council considered the first reading of a proposed ordinance change to allow skate boarding on the pier

#### **Upcoming Items**

- Captain Kids will be resurfacing their parking lot
- City Council will consider lease contracts
- City Council is deliberating on returning to in-person meetings

#### **Miscellaneous Follow-up Items**

- Completion of filming for a Food Network show
- Collection of data of a survey on the King's Harbor Amenities Plan

Discussion followed regarding fundraising for the Skate Park wall amenity, the Skate Park construction schedule, short-term leases for Ruby's and Beach Life, consideration of recommendations regarding the Harbor Patrol, the next meeting of the Harbor Amenities Plan subcommittee and the possibility of holding the meeting, outdoors and in-person.

Chair Carlson mentioned extending the south break wall and spoke about heavy currents and whirlpools because of surges at the basins.

### **M. ITEMS FROM STAFF - None**

### **N. COMMISSION ITEMS AND REFERRALS TO STAFF**

Chair Carlson suggested agendaizing a presentation from Julie Cole and her waterfront education program for the next Harbor Commission meeting.

*Motion by Chair Carlson, seconded by Commissioner Kilroy, to agendaize a presentation from Julie Cole and her waterfront education program for the next Harbor Commission meeting. Hearing no objections, Chair Carlson so ordered.*

Commissioner Callahan thanked W.E.D. Manager Laurie Kioke for sending out the notice regarding the light at Harbor Drive.

Commissioner Chrzan requested that staff look at the Marina Way parking lot rate compliance with the rules.

### **O. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Commissioner Callahan, seconded by Commissioner Kilroy, to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, Chair Carlson so ordered.*

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At 10:45 p.m., Chair Carlson adjourned the meeting to May 9, 2022.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Greg Kapovich, Director  
Waterfront & Economic Development