

**MINUTES OF THE  
REDONDO BEACH HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING  
OCTOBER 12, 2020**

**A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW AND RE-APPOINTED COMMISSIONERS**

A Virtual regular meeting of the Harbor Commission was held pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020 and was called to order by Chair Kilroy at 6:30 p.m.

City Clerk Eleanor Manzano administered the Oath of Office to new and re-appointed Commissioners, Michael Kilroy, and Leslie Chrzan.

**B. ROLL CALL**

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

Officials Present: Stephen Proud, W.E.D. Director  
Laurie Koike, W.E.D.  
Elizabeth Hause, W.E.D.  
Eleanor Manzano, City Clerk  
Vickie Kroneberger, Chief Deputy City Clerk

**C. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

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

**D. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF AGENDA**

*Motion by Commissioner Callahan, seconded by Commissioner Bauer to approve the order of the agenda. Motion approved, unanimously, by roll call vote.*

**E. BLUE FOLDER ITEMS**

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

W.E.D. Director Stephen Proud noted a Blue Folder Item related to the Director's Report.

*Motion by Vice Chair Light, seconded by Commissioner Carlson to receive and file the Blue Folder Items. Motion approved, unanimously, by roll call vote.*

**F. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**F.1. APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING FOR THE HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 12, 2020**

**F.2. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 14, 2020**

W.E.D. Director Proud announced there were no public eComments or emails received from the public regarding the Consent Calendar.

*Motion by Commissioner Callahan, seconded by Vice Chair Light, to approve the Consent Calendar, as presented. Motion approved, unanimously, by roll call vote.*

**G. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - None**

**H. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**H.1 For eComments and Emails Received from the Public**

W.E.D. Director Proud announced there were no public eComments or emails received from the public.

**I. ITEMS CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS AGENDAS - None**

**J. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION PRIOR TO ACTION**

**J.1. QUARTERLY PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT**

Redondo Beach Fire Department Chief Robert Metzger presented details of the Harbor Patrol third quarter report, focusing on the months of August and September, and comparing the third quarter in 2020 with the third quarter in 2019. Relative to May-Day calls, the number increased by 50% in 2020 over 2019; reported SUP/PFD citations increased by 78% over 2019; noted that under SUP/Swimming there was an increase over 2019 of 120% and stated the Harbor Patrol ties the latter to Covid-19. He addressed Harbor Patrol statistics for August and September 2020 relative to public information contacts and public assists and reported there is no data as the person in charge of providing the information, took a different assignment within the department, as a consequence of budget cuts.

Vice Chair Light asked if illegal swimming is associated with boat parties and bands and Chief Metzger stated it could be, but they were not cited for that. Chief Metzger added that boat parties are not legal as any event in the Harbor needs to be approved; reported the Harbor Patrol is doing its best in trying to monitor and control the situation and noted the Harbor Patrol has limited authority to issue citations as the Municipal Code does not grant the Harbor Patrol this authority. Vice Chair Light pointed out boat parties are also in violation of the City's Municipal Code relative to noise.

Commission Callahan reported the Police Department has Service Volunteers and asked if a volunteer could be assigned to take over public information contacts and Chief Metzger stated he would be happy to discuss that with the Police Chief.

Commissioner Carlson discussed activities in the anchorage; noted the City is trying to encourage anchorage of visiting boats and swimming and asked for clarification. Chief Metzger reported people are not using moorings to fix their vessels but are rather dropping anchor and stated that regardless of whether it is a mooring or anchoring, people are prohibited from swimming in the Harbor. He added it is hard to regulate and presents a safety challenge for boaters coming through the channel. Events in the Harbor are vetted by the City through the permitting process. Commissioner Carlson reported there is a corner of the Harbor used by small crafts and paddle boards and suggested considering different rules for that area encouraging small craft to stay in the area and away from the main channel.

Redondo Beach Police Lieutenant Jeffrey Mendence presented the staff report and addressed swimmers, PFDs, assists rendered, public outreach, training, and collaboration with the Manhattan Beach Police Department and the El Segundo Police Department and arrests.

Commissioner Carlson asked about coverage on the pier and water with the new budget and Lieutenant Mendence discussed impacts of Covid-19 and dividing groups into teams and reported there has been no significant differences in coverage.

Commissioner Chrzan discussed increases in SUPs, the need for boating education and the need to develop creative ways to educate the public. Lieutenant Mendence reported the Department seeks to maximize opportunities to education people regarding the harbor.

Commissioner Carlson suggested the need to consider installing signage in connection with the new showers and the hand launch.

Vice Chair Light asked about enforcement related to parties on the water and Lieutenant Mendence stated he was not aware of enforcement actions by the Police Department but noted the issue is being monitored. Vice Chair Light felt it is an unsafe situation; indicated it should be regulated and controlled and suggested adding a discussion on the subject to a future meeting agenda.

## **J.2. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Previous Council Items**

- City Council considered the second reading of an amendment to the Municipal Code related to the appointment of Harbor Commissioners
- City Council made appointments to City Boards and Commissions and discussed sending a letter to the L.A. County Board of Supervisors regarding the reopening of breweries
- City Council approved providing funding to businesses to help with Covid-19 related expenses for Artesia Boulevard and the Riviera Business Association and expanded it for pier businesses

### **Upcoming Council Items**

- City Council will consider consent to amendments for subleases with the Redondo Landing Property
- City Council will receive an update regarding the Skate Park to communicate support from the Harbor Commission as well as concerns
- City Council will hear a report from the Redondo Beach Tourism District and the annual free holiday parking program

W.E.D. Director Proud reported on the continuation of rent deferrals for small businesses and the establishment of repayment plans; provided an update on the Falconry program; addressed bait operations and discussed dredging in the harbor as well as the permitting process and disposal of dredge materials.

W.E.D. Director Proud read an email from resident Mark Hanson, regarding disposal of contaminated dredge materials.

W.E.D. Director Proud reported the hand launch will be removed for repairs during the winter; noted the location of an alternative launch; stated staff is working on sending out a Nixle message to let people

know about the closure of the hand launch and announced the upcoming Strategic Plan meeting and the next Harbor Commission meeting.

It was noted the dredging project is not on the agenda and discussion on the matter should be limited.

Commissioner Carlson suggested agendizing the dredging project for the next Harbor Commission meeting; asked about the public comment period in the dredging project notice and discussed maintenance of the break wall.

W.E.D. Director Proud reported the public comment period closes on October 29, 2020; noted staff will coordinate with the Army Corp of Engineers and other regulatory agencies regarding the scope of work proposed by the City and the break wall project; discussed extending the south wall of the break wall; addressed REI working with the Portofino on kayak rentals; provided a brief update on the status of the power plant project and spoke about the launch ramp and the possible creation of a public amenities master plan.

In reply to Vice Chair Light's question regarding consideration of the City's recommendations by the Harbor Commission prior to sending them to the Army Corp of Engineers, W.E.D. Director Proud discussed a sampling plan and analysis of dredging locations submitted to regulatory agencies and stated he was unaware the project was moving as fast as it has. Vice Chair Light expressed concerns about dumping contaminated material in the harbor, accelerated shoaling in the hand launch boat ramp and associated pollution; mentioned consideration of homeless housing on Mole B; worried that it will be long-term and talked about lawsuits related to the AES Power Plant.

In response to Chair Kilroy's question regarding the procedure to add an emergency item to the agenda, W.E.D. Director Proud indicated the Commission may do so, noting the public comment deadline will occur before the next regularly scheduled Harbor Commission meeting.

*Motion by Chair Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan, to add consideration and discussion of the Harbor Dredging Project as an emergency item, to the agenda, to allow for the Harbor Commission's input prior to the public comment deadline. Motion carried, 6-1, by roll call vote, with Commissioner Walters, opposed.*

Commissioner Walters indicated the matter is a notice of preliminary decision from the Army Corp of Engineers and W.E.D. Director Proud stated they are trying to determine what may need to be included in special conditions for which a permit would be issued. Commissioner Walters noted soil samples showed DDT and PCBs and asked whether the source of the contaminants were identified. W.E.D. Director Proud stated he would need to review the report again to obtain information on the source.

Chair Kilroy recalled Dow Chemical drums containing DDT were dumped off the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

Commissioner Carlson suggested scheduling a special emergency meeting to discuss the Harbor Dredging Project prior to the public comment deadline. W.E.D. Director Proud suggested scheduling a special meeting of the Harbor Commission on October 26th which would give staff the opportunity to distribute additional materials for the Commission's review.

*Motion by Commissioner Callahan, seconded by Vice Chair Light, to direct staff to schedule a special meeting of the Harbor Commission on October 26, 2020 at 6:30 p.m., to discuss the Harbor Dredging Project. Motion carried, 6-1, by roll call vote, with Commissioner Walters, opposed.*

Commissioner Carlson expressed concerns with dumping contaminated dredging material in the harbor and the ocean, in general.

Vice Chair Light indicated he wants to make sure the Commission receives all relative documentation.

Commissioner Bauer asked about the funding source for rent deferral program and W.E.D. Director Proud reported it is funded by CARES Act money that was allocated to the City.

**J.3. HARBOR COMMISSION NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIR**

W.E.D. Director provided the staff report, declared the position of Chair and Vice Chair of the Harbor Commission, vacant, and called for nominations.

*Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan, to nominate Commissioner Light as the Chair of the Harbor Commission. Motion carried 6-1, by roll call vote, with Commissioner Light, abstaining.*

*Motion by Commissioner Callahan, seconded by Chair Light, to nominate Commissioner Carlson as Vice Chair of the Harbor Commission. Motion carried 6-1, by roll call vote, with Commissioner Carlson, abstaining.*

**K. MEMBER ITEMS AND REFERRALS TO STAFF**

Commissioner Callahan asked about a mooring report and W.E.D. Director Proud stated it will be presented at the Harbor Commission' regular meeting in November.

Chair Light asked that staff add to the November agenda, a discussion on boat parties, related permitting, and actions.

W.E.D. Director Proud referenced Item No. F.2 and noted Commissioner Chrzan was not in attendance at the Harbor Commission meeting of September 14, 2020 and therefore, should not have been asked to vote for approval of the meeting minutes.

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Commissioner Kilroy, seconded by Commissioner Callahan to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, unanimously, by roll call vote.*

At 8:19 p.m., Chair Light adjourned the meeting to the next special meeting of the Harbor Commission on October 26, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Proud, Director  
Waterfront & Economic Development