

SONOMA COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS DEPARTMENT
SPUD POINT ADVISORY MEETING NOTES
October 26th, 2023

Facilitator: Noah Wagner, Marina Supervisor
Recorder: Jacquelyn Leonard, Account Clerk II

1) Call to Order Tony Anello (TA) 11:07

Roll Call (TA) 11:09 Tony Anello (TA) – President, Richard Ogg (RO) Lorne Edwards (LE) Richard Franceschi (RF) David Robinson (DR) Park Manager, Noah Wagner (NW) Spud Point Marina Supervisor, Chris Ohanian (CO) Senior Marina Attendant, Jacquelyn Leonard (JL) Account Clerk II, Phil Lisle (PL) Member of Public.

Approval of Minutes (TA) 11:10

- TA made the motion to approve 1.DO 2.LE
- Motion approved.

2) Spud Point Advisory Committee Business 11:15 (TA)

- New committee member Oath of Office
- This item on the agenda was moved to the next meeting.

3) Abandoned Vessel Abatement Fund and Commercial Berthing Credit at County of Sonoma Marinas (NW) 11:10

- NW-Berthing Fee Waiver Statistics: Aug: 56 fee wvs. 55 apvd. \$17,400 waived; Sept. 63 fee wv. 60 Apvd. 60 two didn't meet the qualifications and were denied and we have 1 determination for Sept. We thought fee waiver's approved by committee were apvd. going forward, but need confirmation. Was that the intent? DO- What are the impacts? Should we re-evaluate? TA- Did we negate the requirements? Did they really qualify as commercial fisherman? TA- Floor is open to discuss. LE- Should we be allowed to decide privately? DO- Decisional processes aren't always public and how does the Brown Act Apply? DR- Re: voting in privacy must check with Counsel. When is this supposed to expire? NW- End of year, Jan. 01. Need motion that once an application is approved or denied it goes to the end year only. Motion TA-1 DO-2 Discussion: Next time we have a committee for this we need to be very clear about what we can and can't do. We need more advice of the County Counsel. What are the parameters of a hardship claim. All in favor? All Ayes, No Nays.
- September fee waiver denial: Chris Starboard and his Oyster Barge. NW denied, does not fish. Peter Repanich, NW denied, received application past deadline.
- Up for determination: Gary Petersen, unable to attend his hardship letter was read by JL- Pending Application for approval. DO- In consideration of his trying to fish. NW- Do we approve because he is trying? We also have a similar request for next two months from J. Howe. LE- May abstain from the vote because of past issues with Gary Peterson. RF- Boat isn't ready won't be ready to commercial fish. TA- Will make a motion to vote. JL- List of Parameters. DO- Paul Kaplan at KKMI Offering Free Haul Out, to help fishermen. NW- Maybe send out mass email? CO- Gary Peterson is going back to AZ. to sell his corvette to pay his SPM bills. TA- Motion to approve. RF 1st. Vote 2nd. by DO. Motion to approve Gary Peterson's berthing waiver is approved by the committee. TA- Y, RO-Y, LE- Abstained, RF- Y.

- Wrap up for Sept. BFW. \$19,171.90 BFW for September, now with Gary Peterson approved add \$300. I expect we will received about the same number BFW application in Oct. so this means we should have funds for everyone for Nov. & Dec. with a little left over. CO- What happens to the final \$ after program ends? DR- Any \$ not used for the BFW goes to abandoned vessel balance.

4) **Comments from the Public 12:08**

- PL- If someone wants to sell from fishing boat is a licenses or permit required. NW- Yes. We have approved \$20.00 day, \$100 weekly and \$200 monthly. CO- Didn't we decide not to charge these fees? DO- Commercial Fishermen should have option to sell off vessel without financial obligation to the Marina. Is there a reason SPM should receive additional funding from the sales. NW- additional fund are because more people using the Marina that we have to deal with. TA- This is not on the Agenda. DR- Bring it up for New Business. NW- Fishermen must have a F&G Resale license, certified scale, and weight masters. DO- We had a mtg. with L.Hopkins at Ginocchios where she said we were waiving the fee. These are the times that we need it and maybe we need to discuss again with L. Hopkins. DR- I thought we agree to waive the fee. NW- We have not had anyone who wants to sell off the docks. The haul out dock is preferred for fish sales but there is not power or water, hence guys want to sell off their slips. We have not had anyone who wants to sell off the docks anyways. RF- Health Permit not required over water. DO- Buyers complain your taking our business away.

5) **2023/2024 Crab Season Forecast & Discussion (TA) 12:10**

- TA- Plenty of Whales. Nothing set in stone when it will happen and asked for DO comments. DO Assessment done yesterday. Observations are min. 10 whales seen 150 you didn't see. We saw 150. Zones 3 & 4 are primary area for us. Majority of animals are Point Arena to Pigeon Point. Didn't see amount that we saw last year. Season wont' start on the 15th . NW- Nov. 4 Recreational crab opened with restrictions. DO- Next Assessment will be prior to Dec. 1st. Demoic Acid is clear all the way up the coast. No more demoic testing. DO- will present to various committees and task forces.

6) **NOAA Grant Request (DR) 12:20**

- DR- No new news on the NOAA 7.2 Mil for Dock and Ice House Replacement Grant with Noyo Harbor. Elise Wayland left her position so Tracy Lyon is filling in with grant. Bodega Bay, Noyo Harbor, Eureka and Cresnet City are all in grant process together to help fund abandoned vessel removals. Will not start work until 2025. NW- We dispose of two boats at SPM in conjunction with So. Co. Pi and So. Co. Sheriff's Department.
- DO- Asked about grant for Ice House with Harbor Master in Ft. Bragg. DR that's the first 7.2 Mil grant & then there is the SST program PG&E energy reduction financed through bond and energy savings. DO- would like to support with fisherman and L. Hopkins. CO- Was aware of the climate change public infrastructure grant with Ft. Bragg. He attended the ZOOM meeting w/Ft. Bragg in place of NW. This grant is separate from SST.

7) **Mason's Marina Fish Buying Dock RFP Update (NW) 12:30**

- NW- Public Bid Process complete. No one bid. NW contacted all interested parties and Rcvd. 3 proposals. In the end we accepted-Short lease w/current lease holder Pac Seafood.

8) Future Agenda Items (TA) 12:40

- TA- Off the boat fish sales.
- Annual Fee Package. (note: Planning on cleaning up fees)

9) Next Meeting Date (2nd Qtr. 2023/2024 Oct. Nov. Dec.) (TA) 12:42

- NW- Revision to Agenda, it should read 3rd. qt. JAN, FEB. MAR

10) Meeting Adjourned (TA) 12:45

- TA- Motion to Adjourn? 1st. RF. 2nd. LE 2nd all agreed. Mtg Adjourned.

Reminders:

- County Counsel/Brown Act question: Nonpublic or private SPMAC meetings
- KKMI Mass email about free haul out for commercial fishermen