

**Waterfront Recreation Committee**  
**Minutes – September 18, 2012 - 12:00 pm**  
**Marina Center Boardroom**

Members in Attendance: Doug Archbald, Sam Bauer, Cori Bison, Bill Lake and Greg Stiegel (CGWA), Forrest Rae (CGKA), Pepi Gerald, Rich McBride and Brian Shortt (Port Commissioners), Liz Whitmore (Port staff – ex officio member)

Member Absent: Laney Gale

Guests: Jim Bison, Carlos Cornieles, Spring Milward, Bob Wendler

Commissioner Rich McBride opened the September 18 meeting at 12:04p.m. No items were added to the agenda.

Committee approved meeting minutes for June 21, 2012.

**Public Comment**

Bob Wendler: Too much congestion at Event Site. Concession lessons and equipment should not be offered from Event Site. Supports moving Event Site Booth to west side of parking lot. Marina is underused.

Rich McBride: Improving access points along the waterfront is important. Takes time for projects to come to fruition. Commission is committed to looking at whole waterfront.

**Cable Park Update**

Rich McBride: Commissioners are visiting Wake Nation, a cable park outside of Cincinnati, Ohio. Staff analysis of cable park issues will be presented at October 16<sup>th</sup> Port Commission meeting. Commission decision is scheduled for November 6, 2012.

**Marina Committee**

Liz Whitmore: Committee is made up of (4) members with houseboat, powerboat, sailing, and yacht club representation. Jon Davies, Port Commissioner and Mellissa Halseth, Port staff, also serve on the committee.

**Kiteboarding, Windsurfing, SUP - RFP**

Liz Whitmore presented a draft proposal of the RFP requirements and options for concession configurations at the Event Site. School concessions to be located on upper cruise ship dock. Lower cruise ship dock is possible location for food vendors.

Bill Lake: Concerned about impact of proposed cable park on school concessions. Group responded that schools would not be affected by the cable park if approved.

Pepi Gerald: Suggested adding a set of stairs down to the lower cruise ship dock toward the north end.

Doug Archbald: Suggested adding ladder from water to lower cruise ship dock to provide access from water.

Bob Wendler: Concerned about congestion caused by cars driving through Event Site and not paying.

Sam Bauer: Important to be friendly to all people coming to Event Site, even if they just want to pass through. Need to set a positive tone about our community to the people who come to visit.

Lori Stirn: Expressed interest in accommodating more schools. Also sees the challenges of creating evaluation criteria for RFP.

Jim Bison: Kite schools not chosen through RFP process could work for other schools. Schools cooperated better when there were fewer. Been a difficult work environment past three years with 7 kite schools. Would like to see it reduced to 3 schools.

Forrest Rae: Have the booth attendant be on foot so space is available for a food vendor.

Cori Bison: Once the quantity of schools is determined, no one can sneak in after the decision is made. Windsurfing and kite experts on evaluation committee need to be unbiased.

Pepi Gerald: Port should follow the rules of the RFP.

Jim Bison: Friends teaching friends is difficult for schools. Up to the schools to communicate with rogue instructors.

Spring Milward: If a school instructor is teaching a friend when not working, shouldn't be allowed to work for any school the next season.

Carlos Cornieles: Safety is a huge factor with the growing numbers of rogue instructors. Feels the Port should provide signage to educate the public about friends teaching friends. Or designate a specific area that non-Port instruction could occur.

Pepi Gerald: Shouldn't create too much competition for food vendors. Suggests only two vendors on the lower cruise ship dock.

Greg Stiegel: Suggests having a food vendor at the Hook.

**RECOMMENDATION from WF Rec Committee:** Kite schools should be reduced to 5. Food vendors should be located on lower cruise ship dock.

## **High-Water Planning**

Bill Lake: Port should hire a hydrologist to determine the status of the sandbar.

Pepi Gerald: Need a river gauge and a visible system to determine when water is high or low.

Cori Bison: Likes the suggestion of a red flag/green flag system.

Pepi Gerald: Need a response plan, promote other kiting locations, and control traffic flow at the beach.

Bill Lake: Sole issue is safety and crowding at the Event Site.

Doug Archbald: Beach (kids playing downwind of flight deck) is a big problem that needs to be addressed, but values the Event Site as a family location.

Sam Bauer: There is no normal situation with high water these days. Needs to be a daily call. Not worth it to pay money for a hydrologist report. Need more Port employees to control crowds at Event Site. Volunteers aren't as affective as employees.

Lori Stirn: Special Districts has a grant available that is due November 1 to apply for money for signage.

High-Water Planning Sub-Committee was formed to come up with a proposal to be reviewed by WF Rec Committee. Committee members include: Greg Stiegel, Cori Bison, Pepi Gerald, Rich McBride, and Liz Whitmore. First meeting is on September 26 at noon in the Port Boardroom.

## **Waterfront Strategic Development**

Discussion was deferred to next meeting as first agenda topic due to meeting running long.

### **Next WF Rec Meeting:**

Tuesday, October 23, 2012 at noon in the Port Boardroom.

The September 18, 2012 meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

*Prepared by Liz Whitmore, 09/19/2012*