

**Waterfront Recreation Committee
Minutes
April 17, 2008**

Attending: Members Steve Gates, Lori Stirn, Laney Gale, Doug Archbald, Ann Frodel, Michael Schock (Absent: Richard Sassara, Commissioner Hoby Streich); Commissioner Sherry Bohn; Staff Members: Linda Hull, Operations Manager, and Laurie Borton, Marina Manager; Guest: Kris Gann

Commissioner Sherry Bohn opened the meeting with no introductions needed.

Marina:

- **Expansion Update:** Members reviewed the latest draft (Option 5-final) of the proposed new dock. Doug Archbald stated the optional dinghy dock would accommodate up to three dinghies and wondered if the Port might want to consider racked kayak storage. Consensus was that the plan was a reasonable design. It was asked if any boats would have to be moved during the construction period. Staff will notify those who may be impacted during this time. Ann Frodel asked if parking would be a problem with more tenants. Laurie Borton explained the parking lot is for the whole area, not just the Marina, and more parking is available throughout the Marina Park. Linda Hull said the Hood River Yacht Club and the Port are negotiating a lease for the old Port maintenance building. Doug confirmed it is going well and they expect to be in the building this summer. Ann asked if the Port could charge fees for the public ramp. Linda Hull said that is allowed, but the Oregon State Marine Board provides an annual maintenance grant for the parking/ramp/restroom and it hasn't been the policy to charge because of that. The fuel dock is operating and requires a phone call, which can be done on site, to the Hood River Shell station across the road. Kris Gann asked if there was a pumpout station; yes, it is on the fuel dock. There was concern expressed about the continual use of the overflow dock by young people as there may be more boat traffic with the additional slips. Laurie stated Mike Anderson, Marine Deputy, patrols that and issues warnings, but will cite repeat offenders. Ann thought the new park might provide a safer place for those people who want a swim beach.
- **Sub-Leasing Issue:** Laurie gathered information from both Oregon and Washington ports and marinas. She explained that most Oregon port marinas do not sub-lease. The larger Washington ports do. Doug said the Hood River Yacht Club was in favor of sub-leasing. Steve Gates thought there is a compelling argument for more activity out of empty slips as long as they had the same insurance as the tenant. Laurie clarified that the sub-lessee would have to be able to fit in the slip and be limited to time (most have 7 months or less). Sherry Bohn asked about the workload for staff. Linda said Laurie spends a large amount of time on the Marina as it is. Laurie felt the option that requires the tenant to be responsible for the sub-lease would require less staff time to manage. Sub-lessee would be required to provide insurance to the Port. The administration fee was discussed. Most considered \$250 too high, some thought it was reasonable and that the sub-lessee wouldn't have a problem with paying it to obtain the slip. All realized that the time to administer a sub-lease is the same for one month or seven. Consensus was that staff will prepare a recommendation for sub-leasing to present to the Commission that includes a reasonable administrative fee, time limits on sub-lease period, and amount sub-lessee pays should not exceed the rental amount. Laney Gale brought up the fact that the rental fees should be revised so that long boats on the end of the docks are charged more for their length.

Off-Season Review:

- **Event Site Kiteboarding (October 1 – April 30):** Steve stated that the timeframe should change from October 1 through March 31, due to the conflicts he has seen this year in April. He said several CGKA members he talked to agreed that the winds are funky there and it's not a good place to launch or land as the lines come in over the grassy area. They offered personal support for a 6-month off-season period in the interest of safety to everyone.

MOTION: Ann Frodel moved to change the Event Site kiteboarding off-season timeframe to October 1 through March 31. Motion was seconded by Mike Schock. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

It was also noted and agreed by everyone that CGKA really "stepped up" and has demonstrated its commitment to safety and to working with the Port and CGWA on the local recreational issues. Linda read a note from Jim Grady, CGKA President, telling the Committee that the kiteboarding community really appreciates their ability to kiteboard at the Eventsite during the off-season. They will be self-policing the no-fly zone again this summer, and they wish to continue on its path of improved reputation.

2008 Season Issues & Recommendations (Discussion):

- ❑ **Oregon Parks & Recreation Trail Grant Application:** Linda said the Port has a grant application into the Oregon Parks & Recreation for a Local Government grant for the trail. Lori said the results wouldn't come in until later this summer. The Hood River Valley Parks & Recreation District will contribute \$5,000 to the project, if awarded.
- ❑ **Event Site: Website survey re: dogs:** Linda said the Port's new website has a Take a Survey link for people to weigh in on this issue. She will let CGWA know about it so their members can participate.
- ❑ **Event Site: Upgrade landscaping:** Linda said the Event Site would be spruced up for the season this year. Trees are being planted and fencing removed to make a more festive atmosphere.
- ❑ **Hook & Spit:** Permitted school signage will be replaced showing the authorized schools and include more safety language.
- ❑ **Spit: Kicker – Slider location:** CGKA is working with Deputy Anderson regarding placement and permitting. They have permission by the Port to store them along the shrubbery below the schools.
- ❑ **Spit: CGKA/CGWA flyer/signage regarding hazards, barges, "Kite at your own risk":** The Committee felt there was actually too much information on the flyer and offered a few changes that Linda will incorporate into the flyer. It will be available for the booth attendant to hand out to new people coming in. Linda said the Port appreciated the work the CGKA committee did to try to inform beginners to the sport as well as spectators.
- ❑ **Nichols basin water quality summer studies update:** Linda informed the Committee that the testing done by Riverkeepers and SWCA last summer indicated the water quality was not dangerous to those using the area. The Spit dyke actually allows fresh water to permeate through it.
- ❑ **Delta removal and fill project update:** Steve said CGWA is very supportive of the Delta resculpting project that was delayed this year due to the studies now required. The Port hopes to have a permit for 2009 to accomplish this project.
- ❑ **Other:** Ann asked if there was anything the Port could do to make the grass less soggy. Lori said that Parks & Recreation is using a new grass that is better suited to the area and said Steve Stampfli is the contact. Linda will follow up with him. Ann asked if the gate could be kept open until dark. Linda will check with Joe Pounders on the procedures for closing at night. Harvest Fest at the Event Site in October was also discussed with concerns for parking.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Date to be determined.

Prepared by Linda Hull