

**Waterfront Recreation Committee
Minutes – September 21, 2011 - 3:30 p.m.
Marina Center Boardroom**

Attending: Members Doug Archbald, Cori Bison, Forrest Rae (CGKA), Bill Lake (CGWA), Ann Frodel, Laney Gale, Pepi Gerald, and Michael Schock; Commissioners Rich McBride and Brian Shortt (for Jon Davies); from Port staff (ex-officio members) Michael McElwee and Linda Shames (for Laurie Borton).

Absent: Lori Stirn

Commissioner Rich McBride opened the September 21 meeting at 3:32 p.m. Rich noted that there were maps and colored pencils on the tables and invited everyone to express their vision of the waterfront. *(Rich collected drawings at the end of the meeting. He will compile a matrix of ideas and try to create a master drawing.)*

Approval of April 27, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Move to approve minutes of the July 18 and July 20, 2011 meetings.
Move: Frodel
Second: Shock
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment

Bob Wendler- Stated that we need to start now looking at next season. He felt that the Event Site should be a recreational wind sport site only, allowing for kite boarding and windsurfing and posted "no swimming". Float lines or other lines to better delineate usages and access ways.

John Hart (Kayak Shed)-Wanted to let the committee know that he had a good season, they are the quiet users but he had about 2,000 users this year and employs about 12 people. The basin is a great place for him. He would like to expand to small hobie cats.

Naito Development-Cable Park

Will and Bob Naito made a power point presentation to the committee regarding the proposed development for the area commonly known as Nichols Boat Basin. The project would include an 87 room hotel, a commercial building that would house a restaurant, offices and some retail space and a cable park extending into the basin area. Will gave a description of the Rixen cable park system and how it would impact the boat basin. The project as presented would utilize about 9.9 acres of the basin leaving about 4.7 at the north end for other uses. The property owned by Naito only extends about 100 feet into the basin so the remainder would be an agreement with the Port. [See attached Q&A]

Review of Waterfront Parking

Overall parking receipts was up significantly from last year in both daily and season passes. The street parking and signage seemed to work well, although there was still abuse of the 90 minute parking area. It was also noted that there are a lot more different types of user groups; stand up paddle boards, families for picnics, and visitors so there was only one day where the booth was unmanned due to lack of use.

Some suggestions related to parking for further consideration were:

- Correct the yellow paint color; make it more uniform with other standardized traffic colors.
- Port should consider towing more of the 90 minute parking abusers.
- The schools and other concessions should not take up parking spots.
- Consider using Lot 1 for parking with a reduced fee.
- Consider using Lot 1 for RV parking and eliminate RV spaces in the lot. Since RV parking spaces are larger, site could then accommodate more users.
- Don't allow concession in parking that impedes the ability to make turns through the lot at the ends of the rows.
- Perhaps the booth could be self-serve so the attendant could check the lot more often.

Marina

Electrical Upgrades: The Port is working on an upgrade to the electrical system to the marina that would replace the existing conduit and add more service. The method of attaching the new conduit and pedestals to the old docks has proven to be very challenging. The current cost estimate of the project is close to \$400,000 about \$75,000 more than the budget amount. The upgrade would be funded 20% by Port funds, 80% bonds with debt service being paid by an increase to moorage fees. A new monthly electrical fee structure will also be implemented to pay for the monthly electrical service.

Moorage Regulations: The Marina Rules and regulations have been updated and were approved by the Commission at the meeting on the 20th. These rules have been reviewed by the yacht club and are similar to other marinas. There were no major changes just some clarifications and reformatting.

Youth Sailing Program: The program is very popular and well attended. It work well in the marina and does not seem to conflict with other users. Doug Archibald commented that the one drawback is that the participants enjoy the program but do not have small boats to grow to.

Recommendations to Commission

Motion: Move to recommend the Port Commission complete the items from the Event Site Host's bucket list for next season.
Move: Gerald
Second: Archbald
Discussion: None
Vote: Unanimous

Other

There was more discussion about the Naito Development. The Committee decided they would like to have the next meeting focus on a discussion about the Naito Development and Cable Park and give a recommendation to the Commission.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2011 at 3:30 pm.

The September 21, 2011 meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Prepared by Linda Shames

Questions and Answers for Naito Project

Is the Cable Park essential to the Project?

- “No”, although it is for this schedule. The Chinese investors like this project because with the cable park it is 2/3 preleased. It is hard to find investment money in this market.

What exactly is underwater?

- 3 pylons & 5 cable stays and 5 concrete anchors. There are concrete anchors, not piles.

How far north from the south end of the basin is it?

- About 1000' from shoreline. It takes up about 9.9 acres with 4.7 left available for other users at the north end.

Can the cable park be narrower?

- Yes, but it is almost at the minimum now.

Does it need to be 5 towers?

- 5 towers are optimal.

Can there be other users in the basin?

- Maybe during season, yes in the off season.

What is the season? And times?

- 6 months, mid-April through mid-October; 10:00 am to dusk

Can the walkways be public walkways?

- Yes, with some extra engineering and design. Could even have a shoreline walkway on the west side if there was periodic access from the water for the cable park user.

Is there any experience with cable parks in northern locations?

- Not in the US, they are all in more temperate climates, but yes in Europe

How quickly can it be removed if it is not successful?

- It can be removed within 24 hours except for the concrete foundations on land. They would need to be broken up and removed.

Is the park site specific?

- Yes, it is being engineered by Rixen for this site.

What kinds of approvals are needed for a cable park?

- The US does not have any standards yet, but Rixen has done a lot of parks and is engineering to accepted standards in Europe.

How tall is the tower?

- 35 feet.

Have there been any injuries at cable parks?

- The injuries are about the same in kind and number as snowboarding.

Will it do okay in high windy areas?

- Not sure in very high wind, it is best with calm weather.

What will your pricing be like?

- \$40-\$50 per day; \$20-\$25 per 2 hours; and a season pass price not determined.

Will you have a life guard?

- All park employees will be certified. Life jackets will be required. There will be nine employees on site at a time.

What permits do you need?

- Corp permit 404, Site plan with the City of Hood River, an agreement with the Port.

Will you own the development?

- Yes.

How loud is the park?

- About 55 decibels

What is your time frame?

- Construction 2012, opening spring 2013.