

Dana Point Harbor Oversight Advisory Committee

Wednesday March 6, 2024 | 5:30 p.m. – 6:20 p.m.

MINUTES

Bob Langan, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Committee members not in attendance; Darcy Harris, Shala Okeef.

PRESENTATIONS/UPDATES:

-Dana Point Harbor Oversight Manager Update: Christian Gagne, the Dana Point Harbor Oversight Manager for the County of Orange, announced that the administrative details that delayed the start of the parking garage and commercial core have been resolved. As a result, site preparation for the parking facility construction has begun. The last parking structure compliance issue in play is confirming to the City of Dana Point that there will be 334 “day boater” parking spaces in the public boat launch ramp area once the existing land parcel has been reconfigured for the parking structure and the new harbor entrance. An inspection of the parking area will be conducted in the near future, by the city and the county, to physically count the parking spaces in the proposed configuration. Mr. Gagne then reviewed the NEW Dana Point Harbor Main Resource web site on Supervisor Foley’s home page located at <https://bos5.ocgov.com>. It is currently under “Dana Point Harbor Updates” in the drop-down menu of the “What’s Happening” tab on the Supervisor’s home page. The site will soon be elevated to its own upper level tab. This comprehensive resource holds all of the pertinent documents concerning the harbor revitalization, as well as the minutes from the DPHOAC meetings to date. Mr. Gagne also reported that he met with representatives of the Dana Point Harbor Boater’s Association again this past week to continue the discussion regarding their questions and concerns and to provide them with some specific answers to issues voiced in an earlier meeting.

-Orange County Supervisor Foley Update: Supervisor Foley opened with the news that the County of Orange has signed off on the proposed new site for The Coffee Importers that will be located within the Ocean Institute facility. Once the parties agree on the “business” aspects of the new venture, construction will begin on a much needed amenity for Baby Beach users and visitors to the western end of the harbor. Supervisor Foley also advised the committee that her office was able to schedule the Supervisor’s annual flag display and “Flag Day” celebration for June 12th to the 14th on the lawn area adjacent to Baby Beach. The committee agreed that Supervisor Foley’s next Dana Point Harbor “town hall” meeting should coincide with the Supervisor’s already scheduled “coffee chat” at The Coffee Importers on the morning of June 21st at 8:30 am.

-O.C. Parks Update: Michael Wilson, O.C. Parks, reported to the committee that roof repair work is underway at the O.C Sailing and Event Center campus and detailed the repair schedule for the 2024 calendar year. Mr. Wilson reported that a new power pedestal has been installed on the east dock. He also reported that his team is continuing to monitor the grant proposal submitted to the State of California, as well as exploring other grant options that might be available to source funding for the center’s east and west dock reconstruction. In addition, he reported that the County of Orange is interviewing space planning firms realizing that a specialized company would be the best option to work with the center’s 13 users to plan and execute the most efficient use of the center’s space. The plan would utilize the center’s existing footprint, thereby avoiding the potential involvement of the Coastal Commission.

-O.C. Sailing Center’s Dock Plan Advisory Group Update: Diane Wenzel reported that her group is awaiting the state’s decision on the grant proposal for the dock reconstruction and the selection of a space planning firm to work with the center’s users.

-Dana Point Harbor Partners Update: Susan Lieb reported that the DPHP are continuing to work on the harbor parking and circulation plan as construction begins. In addition, they are working with O.C. Parks on the Harbor Patrol building signage and that the marina slip reconstruction is well into phase 5. Guest boats, previously accommodated in the Phase 5 area, will be facilitated using open slips in the marina and the guest docks will be permanently relocated to the harbor mouth area as the marina remodel is completed.

-Future Agenda Items: Bob Langan asked the committee for input on future agenda items (see below)

Bob Langan adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Continue to provide Sarah Dagostino (sarah.dagostino@ocgov.com) input with respect to upcoming events in the harbor.
2. Explore the possibility of a 2024 City of Dana Point “Concert in the Park” to be located within the harbor footprint.

APRIL AGENDA ITEMS: (meeting scheduled for April 3rd)

1. Updates by O.C Parks and the O.C. Sailing & Events Center Advisory group on the dock grant status and space planning.
2. DPHP update on the Parking Structure construction and their discussions with the Dana Point Harbor yacht clubs.
3. Report on the dredging plans for the harbor.
4. Needs assessment discussion of current and future youth programs within the harbor (April/May?)