

SANTA MONICA — PIER —

SANTA MONICA PIER CORPORATION

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on June 16, 2014

Ken Edward Center, 1527 Fourth Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Judy Abdo at 6:38 PM on June 16, 2014 at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 Fourth Street.

Board Members reporting present:

Chair Judy Abdo
Secretary/Treasurer Barbara Stinchfield
Rae Archibald
Misti Kerns
Susan McCarthy

Board Members absent:

Vice Chair John Catoe
Ray Braun

Also present:

SMPC Pier Administrator Jay Farrand
SMPC Deputy Director Jim Harris
City of Santa Monica Pier Manager Rod Merl
City of Santa Monica Office of Pier Management Administrator Michael Barboza
City of Santa Monica Civil Engineer Curtis Castle
City of Santa Monica Beach Manager Judith Meister
Santa Monica Police Lieutenant Richard Lewis
Santa Monica Police Sergeant Candice Cobarrubias
Santa Monica Pier Lessees President Chris Volaski
Santa Monica Landmarks Commissioner Roger Genser
Santa Monica Landmarks Commissioner Barbara Kaplan

1. Information Items (Receive and file unless Board members have questions)

A. Staff & Programming Update

Jay Farrand provided the Board with updates about the success of the recent Santa Monica Pier Paddleboard Race & Ocean Festival and ROGA events, noting that a fall session of ROGA has already been scheduled and funded. He reminded the Board that the Twilight Concert Series will begin on July 10 and that everything is progressing well with its planning and funding, then closed his report by noting that the Pier Renewal Press Event has been moved to September, date still to be determined.

Chair Abdo inquired about the status of live theater on the Pier, to which Jim Harris replied that Paul Sand's West End Theatre company does intend to return with his cabaret production but that the logistics for his particular show are better suited for the winter season.

B. May Financials & Budget Update

Jay Farrand summarized the written financial report and commented that May was a great month in terms of revenue from carousel events, deck events, promotions and filming.

2. Action & Discussion Items

A Police update by Lt. Lewis & Sgt. Cobarrubias – Discussion of summer deployment and enforcement focus

Lieutenant Richard Lewis announced that he has been newly appointed as the Santa Monica Police Department's officer in charge of the Pier. He is also the department's Public Information Officer. He and Sergeant Candice Cobarrubias updated the Board about the police department's plans for staffing the upcoming Twilight Concert Series and announced that there will be a "zero tolerance" policy regarding smoking and alcohol use on the beach. SMPD will be accompanied by deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for the first three concerts, after which SMPD will determine whether the extra enforcement will be necessary for future concerts. He also announced that SMPD will be placing lights on the beach, south of the crowds, in order to provide better visibility for police officers.

The Board questioned the necessity of the lights and requested that the lights only be turned on after the concert or in the case of an emergency. Lieutenant agreed to get clarification from SMPD Chief Seabrooks regarding the specific plan for use of the lights.

Public comment by Ken Ward.

Motion by Board Member Stinchfield, seconded by Board Member McCarthy, that the Pier Task Force reconvene prior to any final decision on additional lighting on the beach and also to reconvene mid-series to evaluate all strategies being used by the Pier Corporation and the City, noting the need to preserve the community concert experience at the same time as preserving public safety. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Board Members Abdo, Archibald, Kerns, McCarthy and Stinchfield

NOES: None

ABSENT: Board Members Braun and Catoe

ABSTAIN: None

Chair Abdo moved Item 2.D. up on the agenda in order to continue discussion about planning for the upcoming Twilight Concert Series.

D. Parking at the Pier – Discussion of Summer traffic plan and parking and congestion issues

Upon Chair Abdo's request, Sgt. Cobarrubias outlined SMPD's plans to handle summer traffic near the Pier.

Rod Merl agreed to set up a meeting between City Parking Administrator Frank Ching and Sgt. Cobarrubias to coordinate plans to handle traffic congestion and not only for the Twilight Concert

Series, but for all summer traffic congestion issues, especially with recent street closures dues to downtown construction.

Public comment by Jeff Klocke, Chris Volaski, Heather Doyle and Ken Ward

B. Approval of Minutes for the May 19th, 2014 meeting

Motion by Board Member Kerns, seconded by Board Member Archibald, to approve minutes with noted changes. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Board Members Abdo, Archibald, Kerns, and McCarthy

NOES: None

ABSENT: Board Members Braun and Catoe

ABSTAIN: Board Member Stinchfield

C. Pier Renewal Project Update – Review of remaining construction timeline

City Engineer Curtis Castle updated the Board on the current status of the Pier Renewal Project, noting that there have been recent delays due to Edison availability and an issue with the water line. However, the project is almost finished and the crane is expected to be off of the Pier by July 3rd.

Public comment by Jeff Klocke.

E. Study Group Updates and Reports

Chair Abdo noted that the Pier Visioning Committee has yet to meet. Board Member Archibald asked Rod Merl for City Staff direction on exactly what specific deliverables are expected of the Board.

3. Presentations

A. Santa Monica Pier Lessees Association

Chris Volaski noted that the SMPLA's primary concerns were covered in the parking discussion (Item 2.D.) and that she has nothing further to report.

B. Landmarks Commission

Roger Genser noted that the installation of a plaque, which is being considered for the Pier Renewal Press Event, will likely require review by the Landmarks Commission.

4. Board Member Items

None.

5. Public Comment

Ken Ward commented that the SMPD Substation might be more effective if moved to a smaller booth-type space on the Pier, which would free up the current substation space for commercial use while also providing a more visible and accessible presence for Community Service Officers.

6. Adjournment

Chair Abdo adjourned the meeting at 8:43 PM.

ATTEST: APPROVED:

Barbara Stinchfield
Barbara Stinchfield, Secretary