

PUGET SOUND HARBOR SAFETY COMMITTEE
February 2, 2011

Bruce Reed called the meeting of the Puget Sound Harbor Safety Committee (PSHSC) to order at 10:00 on February 2, 2011 in the Galaxy Room of Federal Center South.

Voting Members Present

Aquaculture	
Commercial Fishing	Leslie Hughes
Environmental	Bill Anderson
Labor	Vince O'Halloran
Native American	Fred Felleman
Passenger Vessel Industry	Darrell Bryan
Petroleum Shippers	Ed Irish
Puget Sound Pilots	Capt. Andy Coe
Public at Large	Theresa Connor
Public Ports	Tom Brown
Recreational Boaters	Richard Marshall
State Ferry System	Darnell Baldinelli
Steamship Lines	Mike Moore
Tug & Barge	Bruce Reed
Local Government	

Advisors Present:

USCG, Sector Seattle	Capt. Scott Ferguson
US Army Corps of Engineers	John Hicks
NOAA	Matt Ringle
US Navy	?
WA Dept of Ecology	Norm Davis

Others Present:

Mark Ashley	USCG VTS Puget Sound	Todd Hass	PSP
Charles Costanzo	AWO	Gary Medina	USCG Sector PS
Lon Cain	Transmarine	CDR Chris Woodley	USCG Sector PS
George Clark	Penn Maritime	Jeff Shaw	Polar Tankers
Matt Denning	USCG Sector PS	James Ellis	Missile Defense Agency
John Dwyer	USCG Sector PS	LTC Rich Jaynes	Missile Defense Agency
Tim Kline	Harley Marine		
LCDR Heather St. Pierre	USCG Sector PS		
Steven Stowers	USCG Sector PS		

Roll Call and Introductions

- ◆ Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

Meeting Notes: There were no corrections to the minutes of the December 1, 2010 meeting; thus they were approved and accepted.

Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound Report

- ◆ Ashley Waldner highlighted several incidents listed in the CG Harbor Safety Committee Report.

US Army Corps of Engineers Seattle District Report

- ◆ John Hicks highlighted the USACE Seattle report on navigation related projects.
- ◆ Big dredging year for the USACE. Quileute, Duwamish River, Keystone, Grays Harbor will all be dredged.
- ◆ Debris removal continues up and down Puget Sound. About 300 tons of material (floating debris) has been collected in the past 2 months. 25 tons was composed of two derelict sailboats, one fishing boat and four large dock sections. 100 tons of debris was collected from Lake Washington.
- ◆ Locks are all repaired.
- ◆ Open water disposal sites are now open.
- ◆ The Pier 90/91 project is proceeding according to schedule.
- ◆ The BP dock EIS scoping report should be released in mid to late spring.
- ◆ Further surveys will be conducted on rock fish larvae counts

Response to Letter from State Representative Rolfes regarding beach degradation concerns:

- ◆ As discussed in the December meeting, the committee received a letter from State Representative Rolfes regarding concerns of wave energy and some beach degradation in the intertidal region of Puget Sound. A response letter from the committee was sent out on December 29th. The committee has not heard back since the letter was sent.
- ◆ Mike Moore stated there won't be anything further on this issue during the current session.

Sea-Based X-Band Radar (SBX) to Todd Shipyard for a 90 day Availability – LTC Rich Jaynes and Mr. James Ellis, Missile Defense Agency:

- ◆ SBX is operated by contractors for the Missile Defense Agency. The SBX is basically a converted self-propelled commercial oil rig fitted with an x-band radar on top. The mission of the SBX is to track enemy ballistic missiles. This is a very big piece of equipment – about 25 stories high.
- ◆ No military personnel on the vessel. Boeing is the primary contractor. There is a crew on board operating the radar, a crew providing security as well as a maritime crew to operate the vessel.
- ◆ The vessel is on a five year schedule for thruster maintenance. Additional routine maintenance will also be performed. Lots of maintenance has been done in Hawaii but this work requires a certain depth of water that is not available there. Todd Shipyard has the required depth of water for the job and that is what brings the SBX to Seattle.
- ◆ Work is scheduled to begin in mid April.
- ◆ Security for the SBX is being worked out with Boeing, Todd Shipyards and Coast Guard. Some type of water barrier will be necessary. Trying to minimize the size of the footprint of the water barrier. Additional security measures/forces will also be determined prior to the arrival of the SBX into the area. Hope to have the security plans finalized in the next few weeks.
- ◆ Exactly where the SBX will be located while at the shipyard is still to be determined. The arrival time of the SBX into the area is still being worked out. The SBX can operate anytime and will try to minimize impact on ferry schedules etc. Impacts on waterways, exclusion zones etc will be communicated with everyone once they are determined.
- ◆ The SBX does not radiate anywhere near land.
- ◆ A media plan will be in place for anticipated questions.

Election of Officers

- ◆ Annual meeting is the first meeting of the calendar year and election of officers happens in odd numbered years. The two elected officers are Chairman and Vice Chairman. Bruce Reed was reelected for another term as Chairman. Leslie Hughes was reelected as Vice Chairman. Both votes were unanimous.

Budget

- ◆ The budget for 2011 was approved unanimously. There is some money in reserve for potential expenses this year.

Member and Advisor Reports:

- ◆ **Operations – Mike Moore:** Standard of Care (SOC) for heavy weather and propulsion issues were reviewed. There has been a suggestion there may be a tie in with anchoring, location of tugs and severe weather warnings. Some language changes will need to be made. We will pull in the appropriate group of folks and work on developing language. We will discuss and further consider SOC in regards to outer coastal towing and heavy weather. At present, heavy weather is a Puget Sound centric response item and integrating outer coast towing may be more of a best practices guidelines subject rather than creating a Standard of Care. Part of the discussion will continue to be what the purview of the PSHSC is and what is appropriate to include in the SOC. The Chairman of the Pilot Commission has asked for some folks to get together regarding SOC for tie ups at the grain terminals. A group will be brought together to discuss. ATB and ITB SOC group to be formed as well. A full review of the Plan by some others on the Committee should be made to make sure we don't miss any opportunity to update since the last publishing.
- ◆ A discussion took place regarding the value of developing a single reliable location of all the data/statistics of ship arrivals to Puget Sound ports that would allow everyone to look at the same accurate picture of vessel traffic, traffic mix etc.

The PSHSC was copied on a letter from the Island Trust group addressed to the US and Canadian Coast Guards regarding transboundary regulatory comparability. Coast Guard headquarters is addressing this and work on this will continue this year.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Next Meeting: April 6th, 2011 Federal Center South

Respectfully submitted by: Polly Kirkpatrick, Recorder