

PORT OF OLYMPIA COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

February 8, 1999

CALL TO ORDER

President Van Schoorl called the meeting of February 8, 1999, to order at 6:32 p.m. at the Port of Olympia in the large conference room. Commissioner Dickison was also in attendance. Commissioner Pottle was unable to attend.

Staff in attendance were: Executive Director Nick Handy, Deputy Director Wendy Holden, Director of Marketing and Trade Development Kari Qvigstad, Director of Finance and Administration George Fox, Executive Assistant Jeri Sevier, Director of Engineering and Planning Andrea Fontenot, and Property Development Manager Heber Kennedy.

Members of the public in attendance were Joel Coffidis of *The Olympian*; Sandy Mackie, legal counsel for the Port of Olympia; International Longshoremen's Workers Union Representative Keith Bausch; Bernie Friedman, Olympia; Zena Hartung, Olympia; and Chris Koelfgen, representing Foreign Trade Zone.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Zena Hartung indicated she had taken the tour of the Port on February 6 with Jerry Mahoney and was very impressed with his presentation. She indicated the marine terminal is much more extensive than she had knowledge of and learned from the tour. She further noted that she is disappointed that the Port is not more actively considering, discussing, or backing a ferry service. Ms. Hartung said the Port should back and promote the possibility of a ferry service noting economic benefits to the Port and community.

Commissioner Dickison responded that the Port has been and will continue to support the idea of a ferry service. Ray Dinsmore, former Commissioner, championed the cause to include the ferry service as an option in the comprehensive plan. Commissioner Dickison indicated the Port would love to see a ferry service, however the issue is an institutional problem and we have no control over it. In addition, Commissioner Van Schoorl encouraged Ms. Hartung to continue promoting this idea.

Mr. Bernie Friedman noted he had seen an article in the Business Examiner regarding the Port pursuing a scheduled carrier to the airport and wanted to know what the plans of the Port were in this regard. Commissioner Van Schoorl indicated staff is meeting with a potential air carrier and is having active discussions regarding bringing air service to the airport. Commissioner Dickison indicated this was something we think we should do as well as what the community has indicated they want the Port to do.

Mr. Friedman expressed his concern about increasing the number of airplanes and encouraged the Port to stop pursuing additional carriers. The idea of planes landing and taking off is disturbing. Commissioner Van Schoorl responded that the airport currently has over 200 planes landing and taking off each day and wondered if those planes were bothering Mr. Friedman. Commissioner Van Schoorl also encouraged Mr. Friedman to obtain a copy of the Airport Master Plan that indicates the limitations of the airport and the capacity of size of planes.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

No Commissioner reports were given.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Minutes. The minutes of January 25, 1999 were unanimously approved as published.

Capital Project Expenditures. The capital project expenditures were unanimously approved as submitted.

ACTION CALENDAR

New Lease - Capital Little League

Mr. Heber Kennedy presented the Commission with a new lease with Capital Little League. The lease is for the parcel of land (10.6 acres) across the street from the Terminal Building at the NewMarket Industrial Campus. It is a six-month lease with two three-month options to renew. Mr. Kennedy indicated there would be no expense to the Port, the temporary structures would be completed by the little league. The Commission unanimously ratified the approval of the new lease with Capital Little League.

Lease Amendment – Mark Helland

Mr. Heber Kennedy presented the Commission with a lease amendment with Mark Helland for 3.72 acres for harvesting Christmas Trees. The only change in the amendment is raising the rent from \$320 to \$350 per year and extending the lease through December 31, 1999. This remains a year-to-year lease. The Commission unanimously ratified the approval of the new lease with Mark Helland.

ADVISORY CALENDAR

Foreign Trade Zone Activities Update

Mr. Chris Koelfgen, representing Sandler and Travis Trade Advisory Services and Ms. Kari Qvigstad, Director of Marketing and Trade Development for the Port, provided a presentation to the Commission discussing the FTZ industry, the uniqueness of the zone project, recent activities, and new opportunities. Mr. Koelfgen has served as the Port's Foreign Trade Zone advisor for the past three years. He indicated there are thirteen sites in the FTZ, which encompass three cities, and three counties. The zone is a general purpose zone.

Marine Terminal Outreach

Mr. Handy reported on the progress being made in planning for the Marine Terminal Outreach process. He indicated over 150 people attended the February 4th forum and 25-30 people attended the tours held on Saturday, February 6th.

Commissioner Assignment Review

The Commissioners reviewed the current listing of assignments with respect to external organizations. The following assignments were made. Commissioner Van Schoorl: Olympia Chamber, Thurston Regional Planning Council, Pacific Northwest Waterways Association, and Washington Public Ports Association. Commissioner Dickison: Olympia Downtown Association, Transportation Policy Board, Maritime Heritage Association, and Tumwater Chamber. Commissioner Pottle: Economic Development Council, Lacey Chamber, and Yelm Chamber.

International Trade Seminar

Ms. Kari Qvigstad provide the Commission with information on the International Trade Seminar that will be held at the airport office on Friday, March 5 from 9-12. Registration for the seminar is underway.

ADJOURNMENT

President Van Schoorl adjourned the meeting of February 8, 1999 at 7:50 p.m.

PORT OF OLYMPIA COMMISSION

President

Vice President

Secretary-Treasurer