

VENTURA PORT DISTRICT

BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS MINUTES OF DECEMBER 4, 2021 PUBLIC WORKSHOP



CALL TO ORDER:

The Ventura Board of Port Commissioners Special Workshop Meeting was called to order by Chairman Chris Stephens at 9:00AM at the Ventura Marina Mobile Home Park, Community Room, 1215 Anchors Way Drive, Ventura, CA 93001.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: By Commissioner Ashworth.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present:

Chris Stephens, Chairman
Michael Blumenberg, Vice Chairman
Brian Brennan, Secretary
Jackie Gardina, Commissioner
Everard Ashworth, Commissioner

Commissioners Absent:

None

Port District Staff:

Brian Pendleton, General Manager
Todd Mitchell, Business Operations Manager
Joe Gonzalez, Capital Projects Manager
Jennifer Talt-Lundin, Marketing Manager
John Higgins, Harbormaster
Jessica Rauch, Clerk of the Board

Legal Counsel:

Andy Turner

Facilitator – Management Partners:

John Bramble, Special Advisor
Julie Hernandez, Senior Management Advisor

Number of interested persons: 9

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

ACTON: Commissioner Brennan moved, seconded by Commissioner Gardina and carried by a vote of 5-0 to adopt the December 4, 2021 Special Workshop agenda.

COMMENTS AND INTRODUCTIONS BY GENERAL MANAGER, BRIAN D. PENDLETON

PUBLIC COMMENT: Leonora Valvo, owner of Derecktor Ventura, commented that it would be very helpful to know who is participating in a meeting when on zoom.

DISCUSSION OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES FROM THE PAST TWO YEARS

Accomplishments:

- Constructed new commercial docks
- Reached decision on Ventura Shellfish Enterprise (VSE) project and completed sea grant
- No loss of tenants due to COVID
- Negotiated master lease for parcels 14 and 20
- Dredged the harbor with federal assistance
- General Manager continued to build a cohesive team
- Adopted a public and civic engagement plan
- Completed painting of the Village and added awnings

Commissioner interview themes and upcoming challenges:

1. Achieving environmental sustainability (pertaining to climate change and rising sea levels) in all of the goals for the District
2. Implementing inclusionary practices by the Board
3. Assuring financial stability for the District

Additional challenges and issues that were identified were:

- Securing funding for continued dredging of the harbor
- Implementing parking and wayfinding solutions
- Developing an environmental sustainability plan for the Board to consider while approving new plans
- Creating an inclusive environment for stakeholders and the community
- Continuing to build relationships with other agencies
- Maintaining the Port's economic viability and finances for capital projects

The small groups identified the following issues and challenges facing the district in the next 25 years:

- Create a unique experience and attraction at the harbor
- Develop parcels
- Effective political force that advocates for the harbor
- Generation shifts
- Federal, state, and local regulations that impact the Port
- Resources (energy and economics)
- Environmental sustainability and climate change
- Transportation
- Working waterfront and commercial fishing enterprise as a business

The small groups identified the following issues and challenges facing the district in the next five years:

- Participate in City General Plan and coastal programs
- Development plan
- Harbor as an attraction
- Infrastructure
- Regulatory (mapping the process)
- Environmental sustainability – energy

- Transportation Master Plan
- Working waterfront

COMMISSIONERS CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENTS TO THE LONG-TERM GOALS

25-Year Goals and Objectives:

1. Anticipate generational shifts of interest
2. Adapt to climate change practices
3. Adopt environmental sustainability practices in all capital projects
4. Become a more prominent political force.
5. Consider energy resources and regulations
6. Create a unique experience for the visitors to the Port
7. Develop vacant parcels
8. Enhance a working waterfront for commercial fishing enterprises
9. Improve transportation to the Port District
10. Coordination in the planning for National Park Service expansion

Five-Year Goals and Objectives:

1. Attractions to the Village and Port
 - Water taxis
 - Geocaching, plaques and docents
 - Floating water show
 - Coordinate *Island of the Blue Dolphins* theme
1. Prepare a Coastal Master Plan as it effects the Harbor
2. Prepare a Development Master Plan.
3. Prepare a Transportation Master Plan
4. Prepare an Environmental Sustainability Plan
5. Prepare an Infrastructure Master Plan
6. Regulatory Issues for commercial partners (mapping the process)

Identified ways to follow through on the goals and objectives the Commissioners identified.

- Review the General Manager's quarterly reports at Board meetings, including updates on progress related to goals
- Review goals and objectives during the budget process
- Discuss and confirm how Commissioners will deal with requests from the public on new initiatives
- Discuss the frequency of workshops

WRAP-UP AND NEXT STEPS: Management partners will take the information provided at today's workshop and create a report that will be presented to the Board at a January meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The Special Workshop Meeting was adjourned at 11:57PM.



Brian Brennan, Secretary