**Present:** Commissioner Singer, Commissioner Green, Port Accountant Carol Tripp, Melanie Winnett - Harbormaster

**Call to Order 7:00pm**

**Public Comments**  
There were none.

**Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Green was excited to see how the evening unfolds and meet the candidates. Commissioner Singer welcomed everyone in attendance and said it was going to be a long evening, so let’s get started.

**Poulsbo Boaters Association**  
There was no report.

**Port Commissioner Candidate Reviews**

Port Accountant Tripp stated the meeting would now being interviewing candidates for the commissioner position. This will all be done remotely and there will be a virtual waiting room for the candidates. Commissioner Green will be drawing names at random to work down the interview list. The candidates will each receive ten minutes to answer the questions read aloud to them and the candidates will have the opportunity to ask follow-up questions. Port Accountant Tripp confirmed no one was in the waiting room. Two additional candidates were not in attendance for the Zoom meeting. The absent candidates were Bill Effinger and Daron Jargodzinske.

Commissioner Green drew names. Kenneth Thomas was first.

**Kenneth Thomas**

*What do you think is the primary purpose and function of the Port?*

Provide Port services and do economic develop that benefits taxpayers and voters of the Port District. To do that you’ve got to be good stewards and provide excellent services to the boaters and the boaters that reside in the marina.

*What is the role of a Port Commissioner? What do you think a Port Commissioner’s job is?*

The commissioners serve as the public policy body and oversight body for the operation of the port. They do not need to get into the nitty gritty of daily operations; their role is oversight and policy direction. Having served on city council, I’m aware that one of the roles of those elected is dealing with finances, taxation, money and resources will be allocated.

*What do you think, aside from the breakwater project, is the most important goal or issue facing the Port?*

The breakwater is the massive thing and has my attention and has for a couple years. Maintaining infrastructure is important and balancing finances to do that. It’s a balancing act and have to look at what are the priorities in the budget and find a way to make to fund those things.

*What experience do you have with collaborative group decision making?*

In December, I just finished a full elected term of four years on the Poulsbo City Council. I spent a year as an appointed member of city council to fill a vacancy previously. In addition to that, many years ago, I was a city councilmember in Arizona for a two-year term. Working with elected body I think I have good listening skills, teamwork skills, prefer things to be built to a consensus and everybody can support it. If you don’t have support of everyone involved it’s difficult to move forward.

*How do you respond with and receive constructive criticism?*

You always have to listen. If you’re given it, there’s a reason for it. You have to be willing to see things through other people’s perspective. There’s always something you can learn from and can make better. Doesn’t mean I always to agree with it, but I am open to it.

*Describe how being in public service as a Port Commissioner looks to you?*

I’m retired so I have all kinds of time on my hands. It’s the sort of role as I saw on city council, and I can expand on what I have time for. There’s an endless list of things to be done. Other marinas to visit, there’s also getting out and about. People within policy making need to be out and about, get feet on the ground, and to take a look and see how things actually look and how they’re going.

*What do you vision for the Port of Poulsbo in five to ten years?*

The Port of Poulsbo breakwater is really looming in my mind. There needs to be progress and visible progress. In five years from now that’s a key thing to be looking for. I’d like to see more involvement in economic development within the Port district. The parking lot is a good start and projects like that are very good.

*What research have you done to prepare yourself for consideration as a Port Commissioner?*

I looked at state laws that pertain to port commissioners. I looked at the Port’s comprehensive plan and it looks like that needs to be updated or revised soon. I went back over the last few meetings. I’m aware there used to be joint meetings between council and port. I have sat in on joint meetings in the past and I’m kind of aware of what’s been going on with the Port.

*Why do you want to be a Port of Poulsbo Port Commissioner and what makes you best for this position?*

The port has this vacancy and feel like if I can step in and help and I have some expertise I believes will be valuable. I have the time available and public service interests me. Aside from experience in public body, working with tribes, DNR, and other federal agencies, I also have direct experience running a Port from when I was in the Navy. I was a port operations officer in charge of the industrial port in Puerto Rico.

**Miriam Stevens**

*What do you think is the primary purpose and function of the Port?*

The Port has several functions. One is transportation for communities to reach us. Waterways are important for other communities to reach us. The main function of the Port, even through there are many, is for communities to reach us.

*What is the role of a Port Commissioner? What do you think a Port Commissioner’s job is?*

Government set guidelines and rules and laws. I also saw while working at the Port you also oversaw the budget. You will be overseeing money and finances.

*What do you think, aside from the breakwater project, is the most important goal or issue facing the Port?*

I think budgeting and having enough money for projects. The breakwater is un such a precarious state and we could have an emergency. Is there money for an emergency? If there was breakwater damage, would insurance cover us if that happened? Do we have some savings for recovery? I think budgeting and having enough money for emergencies would be ideal.

*What experience do you have with collaborative group decision making?*

I think everyone has some experience with collaborative group decision, even in a family you are working as a team. I think in every job I’ve had I’ve always listened to others. There is culture and background and we have always had to understand the differences and work as a team.

*How do you respond when you receive constructive criticism?*

Being human, I will feel like I failed but we can always take it as helpful and see where you missed and improve on that. I think you can also listen because sometimes people are having a bad day and come at you and tell you something. If you listen and tell them your opinion maybe the differences can be brushed aside.

*Describe how being in public service as a Port Commissioner looks to you?*

I love the Port. I see that there is a need for the Port to the community. I know we had a toxic situation recently and healing that is important. I don’t think the community are marching against the Port, but against the Police and the City. You guys apologized and that’s a good step. I see myself as a person who would reach out to eh community. I also think water ways are important to take care of. I would like to take care of the health of the environment and the species that live in our shores. I think there is a lot of need that I care about and I see myself as a looking at the Port as a whole, the environment, the people, and the whole.

*What do you vision for the Port of Poulsbo in five to ten years?*

I think eventually we will have the breakwater and the Port will be able to celebrate on the breakwater the next fourth of July. I would also like to have those big, 50’ boats on the that I hear about.

*What research have you done to prepare yourself for consideration as a Port Commissioner? Why do you want to be a Port of Poulsbo Port Commissioner and what makes you best for this position?*

I have worked at the Port at entry level position. Right now, I’m a happy stay at home mom and I have my experience in guest services and also as a tenant inside operations in the Port. I would hit the ground running. I have read most of the RCW pertaining to the Port, so I think me having previous knowledge of the Port and what it is beneficial and if you need a commissioner I am here.

**Thomas Rose**

*What do you think is the primary purpose and function of the Port?*

One is the encouragement of recreational boating in a safe and enjoyable setting. As far as Port management it is the maintenance and upkeep of the Port. Also, the development and income streams and innovations to keep the Port vibrant and expand the options there are for the Port. It is also encouraging for the City.

*What is the role of a Port Commissioner? What do you think a Port Commissioner’s job is?*

The principle role would be advising and support of the staff primarily the Port manager. I don’t think it’s our role to micromanage. Reinterpretation and implementation for state guidelines or city guidelines and reparation of the port with civil entitles and building relationship with the city is part of the job as well.

*What do you think, aside from the breakwater project, is the most important goal or issue facing the Port?*

Dredging and on-going maintenance of the Port. Taking a look at the structure of head floats, because concrete doesn’t last forever. Other than that encouragement to uplift the people both residing and storing their boats. One concern I have is we haven’t yet seen is the economic ramifications of how current events impact boating. There are a lot of problems and we can circumvent that to encourage people.

*What experience do you have with collaborative group decision making?*

A fair share personally and professionally. One of my roles as a ship pilot was collaborative in its own right because you’ve gotta be on a bridge of a ship. Management wise I’ve been involved on boards, both private and Christian schools, and habitat of humanity. Military wise I’ve worked joint forces with non-governmental organizations and on the harbor safety committee in San Francisco. There were a lot of agendas and politics.

*How do you respond when you receive constructive criticism?*

Constructive criticism is telling me that you are part of the team and part of people that care. Destructive or adverse criticism don’t have your interest at heart. Take that positively, and I may have a bit of a bent nose occasionally when my wife tells me not to eat that third cookie. Use the word “constructive” and operate that as a positive.

*Describe how being in public service as a Port Commissioner looks to you?*

Servant leadership. You’re there for the people both residing and storing their boats. Even if they’re not there a lot. Certainly, guest visitors and City use the Port, too. I would like to see some more interest like we unfortunately had to curtail through The Marine Science Center. The role is a representative and servant leader.

*What do you vision for the Port of Poulsbo in five to ten years?*

I’d like to see more expanded events; be able to steal the cool initiatives from Port Townsend. I don’t know what the breakwater plans are as far as providing more access to public, but I’d like to be able to encourage people from the community to see what’s going on in the waterfront. I’d like to improve things for Port tenants and improve any opportunities for the public. We’re maritime employment and that should be utilized more.

*What research have you done to prepare yourself for consideration as a Port Commissioner?*

I’m more up to speed on current events and I’ve looked at past minutes at the Port. I’ve talked briefly to people at the Port. Nothing in depth, but I have seen reduced minutes to get a feel for things are going. I have to admit nothing too deeply. I don’t see too much on the breakwater project and was hoping to see more about that.

*Why do you want to be a Port of Poulsbo Port Commissioner and what makes you best for this position?*

I’ve been around the Port since ‘95 and I respect and enjoy the community, and the environment. I think looking at this particular position and I’m saddened by what occurred and I’d like to see the footing regained for the port. I’d like to be part of the team that does that. All too often in the past I haven’t paid much attention to what is being said about the Port, but what I have heard is hasn’t been the best and it’s sad because the reputation was increasing. The activity of the Port commission was starting to gather some steam and I’m sorry for the regression. I hope there’s healing and it’s time to get on with it, time to get back to the potential the Port has. As far as my abilities, what I have in my professional background and private background, both commercial and Navy, I’d like to put to use. I think within that I have a varied experience but personally I know what I don’t know and I’m willing to go find answers.

**Frank Smody**

*What do you think is the primary purpose and function of the Port?*

First, economics and bring business not just for the Port but for the City. Part two, recreational uses and events, as well as looking at Port commissioner job and serving the people.

*What is the role of a Port Commissioner? What do you think a Port Commissioner’s job is?*

The role of the Port commissioner is to oversee and that’s why there’s a full-time staff. I believe that when a Port commissioner is set up for a six-year term it’s because you’re in the position to look long term of where are we at and where we see the Port going. Money comes in the form of taxpayers and/or grants, etc. and we must be good stewards of financials and money. We must look at financial and fiscally responsible for money given to the Port whether it’s raised, or money granted, or whatever other means may be.

*What do you think, aside from the breakwater project, is the most important goal or issue facing the Port?*

Besides the breakwater project which obviously is important and deteriorating, going back to working with people, serving the people, get the Port being used economically and able to use it recreational while serving folks and supporting local businesses.

*What experience do you have with collaborative group decision making?*

Years of doing this part of my job and now safety occupational. I did two deployments overseas and working hand in hand with the Navy and Air Force to include host nations trying to build relations in occupational health or incoming vessels (loading and unloading). Equipment, gear, aircraft, building relationships in how we get vessels from America over to another nation and building those relationships to have a common bond. Other part of that is shoreman unloading were from host nation and trying to figure out the safest route for employment and contactors to do their job safely and efficiently.

*How do you respond when you receive constructive criticism?*

I love it. I would thrive in it. I want to do better. The question I usually ask my platoon leaders is tell me something we could have done better. I would always ask that question to my guys: what’s something we did well or that we could have done better to make things more efficient?

*Describe how being in public service as a Port Commissioner looks to you?*

As a public servant we have a lot of responsibilities financially, serving, and funding. How do we build those relationships? Go talk to people and get their opinion, get them engaged and involved. If we aren’t building a culture that’s open and the people feel like they can come talk to you then you’re not going to get very far to do the job of a Port commissioner. Listen and planning long term, that’s how we can serve people best and understand goals and objectives.

*What do you vision for the Port of Poulsbo in five to ten years?*

Honestly, I haven’t had many opportunities to speak to the people. However, the last meeting I sat on and now I’m asking how we build that relationship with the City. The City has a big impact of what the Port does because that relationship is focused on coordinating efforts and objectives. Without that relationship, we won’t be able to grow, build, or have economics set to grow. One vision I do have is build efforts to work with the city and grow relationships with the people. Do more with a little because you have more people working together as a team and not working against each other.

*What research have you done to prepare yourself for consideration as a Port Commissioner?*

I have done research online and have noticed different projects and great activities downtown. One recommendation I have is to update the website.

*Why do you want to be a Port of Poulsbo Port Commissioner and what makes you best for this position?*

The main reason is that I’ve served our nation for 15 years by being in the military and I want to give back. After two deployments, I know that Poulsbo is a community that gives. We have a community that supports sailors. I have a passion to serve people. Part of that goes with my 15-year military service and safety direction while building relationship with folks and trying to be able to come up with a plan, objective, and route for how to get there. I’m a great person to build relationships and strategic plans on how to get us there.

**Keith Madle**

*What do you think is the primary purpose and function of the Port?*Bringing in people from the community and around the area to use their boats, as well as the live-aboards. We want to bring people in from out of the area. I’ve done a lot of boating myself and there’s a lot of different ports. Bringing people to the Port and downtown is something we should strive for so we can bring in that extra money.

*What is the role of a Port Commissioner? What do you think a Port Commissioner’s job is?*

Basically, a lot of decision making for the Port. Bring up ideas, talk about them, go through them, addressing concerns like the wall, the ramp, and the pump out boat so that everything works. We need to bring together ideals within the community.

*What do you think, aside from the breakwater project, is the most important goal or issue facing the Port?*

Personally, for me, I think there’s a big issue with the wake and no wake zone. There is no wake zone out there. I’ve seen a lot of boats get beaten up and lines parted from boats coming through too fast. There used to be a no wake buoy and now the breakwater is falling apart from too much wake.

*What experience do you have with collaborative group decision making?*

My background being in coast guard involves working with a lot of people. Numerous times with everything in my job include getting boats underway. There is risk assessment and getting together and talking about that. I talk with the boating community and working with other people. I focus on solutions and problem-solving and I work well with everyone I’ve ever worked with.

*How do you respond when you receive constructive criticism?*Pretty well. What I do right now is inspections on cutters. I oversee what needs to be done, and deal with law enforcement within the regular boating community.

*Describe how being in public service as a Port Commissioner looks to you?*I don’t know if you go on docks a lot and interact with people. I was wondering about it. It’s important to walk the docks, talking to the people, ask them what they think of the Port. That communication is really important. Get other people’s ideas of what’s going on. There are people that might be living here because of the Port. Getting out and talking to people is great and most boaters get along really well.

*What do you vision for the Port of Poulsbo in five to ten years?*

I hope the breakwater is finished. Cleaning up the bay and the installation of FLUPSYs. Adding more space for people to pull in with their boats and bring more money to the downtown businesses that are barely hanging on. Repairing the wall and breakwater will help the community thrive around here.

*What research have you done to prepare yourself for consideration as a Port Commissioner?*

I went through the minutes for the past two years reading everything you had going on down there with the wall, boat launch, pump out boats, and problems with live-aboards not having a place to pump out. That pump out boat is really good idea because we know people are going to pump out anyway.

*Why do you want to be a Port of Poulsbo Port Commissioner and what makes you best for this position?*

I’ve been serving boating community 20 years in the Coast Guard and have been contributing to everywhere from Alaska down to Peru. I really want to start contributing to my own community. With everywhere I’ve been, and the marinas I’ve seen, I will bring a lot to the table at the Port of Poulsbo. I want to build up this marina from how it is now and continue making it a place people want to make a destination and where they want to stop.

**Consent Agenda.**

**Motion:** Move to approve the minutes of 08/6/2020 and 08/12/2020

**Moved by:** Commissioner Singer **Seconded by:** Commissioner Green

Motion passed unanimously.

**Motion:** Move to approve the warrants

**Moved by:** Commissioner Singer **Seconded by:** Commissioner Green

Motion passed unanimously.

**Breakwater & Boat Ramp Updates**

Port Accountant Tripp said there were no new updates other than we’re submitting the final documents through the City and the $24,000 check is ready for the City. We did get our letter for the D Dock ramp and that was sent to the Commissioners. We will be getting started on that in the next two weeks. The funds are paying off requirements for engineering fees, preapplication fees to obtain the letter of exception for the breakwater. The City will disperse the funds to various permitting agencies that’ll go to Fish and Wildlife and other organizations. Commissioner Singer said the process is moving forward and these are essential steps to getting there and moving forward to our goal.

**New Items**

**Items for Public Discussion**

There were none.

**Public Records Request Policy**

Two very small changes were made: a change in an email address that is no longer active and an updated phone number. The entire document and RCW and are still active and there is no need to change the document.

**Motion:** Move to approve the amended policy. This document will be reviewed again in three years

**Moved by:** Commissioner Singer **Seconded by:** Commissioner Green

Motion passed unanimously.

**Accounting & Manager’s Report**  
See attached.

**Motion:** Move to approve Task Order 11 from Sound West Engineering

**Moved by:** Commissioner Green **Seconded by:** Commissioner Singer

Motion passed unanimously.

**Harbormaster’s Report**  
See attached.

**Public Comments/Request for Future Agenda Items**

There were none.

**Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Green thanked everyone that participated in interviews. She’s excited about the lead way made. She thanked Port Accountant Tripp and Harbormaster Winnett and everyone down there doing a wonderful job. She is always learning something new down on the docks. Keep staying safe and she is looking forward to continuing the adventure together.

Commissioner Singer thanks for everyone for what they do, and the individuals interested in the commissioner seat. We’re doing a great job regarding the maintenance by our employees and reemphasize to the boaters to take the time to clean your boat.

**Executive Session**

The Commissioners and Port Accountant Tripp moved to an executive session at 8:41pm to discuss the qualifications for a public employee applying for Port Commissioner. No decision will be made after the executive session and the session is expected to be 45-60 minutes. The executive session ended, and the Commissioners and Port Accountant Tripp reentered the public meeting for final adjournment.

**Final Adjournment 9:02pm**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Mark Singer, Commissioner

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Jamie Green, Commissioner