

From: Christopher Brignoli <cbptship@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 7, 2020 11:50 PM

To: PPT Info <info@portofpt.com>

Subject: For Public Comment April 8th, 2020

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I would like to thank the Port Staff and the Commissioners for being proactive during this very difficult time. Governor Inslee's Stay at Home order has left many of the Marine related folks wondering how our businesses can survive if we cannot continue working. The Port is offering some help with this, and we are thankful.

I think that we can all agree that the safety of our community comes first. PTSC has created its own Covid 19 Safety Guidelines. It defines both the type of vessels that we will begin working on, and safety practices that we are agreeing to uphold during this Stay at Home Order. This comes at a cost for us of more than 90% loss of revenue, and business. We have sent 45 employees home, but we are doing this to help reduce the spread of the virus in our community.

I believe that the Port should also offer some guidance to the businesses that must remain open during these difficult times. One of my primary concerns would be the possibility that we may unknowingly introduce more of this virus into our community due to allowing vessels and crew in without some kind of careful safety protocol in place.

The types of vessels that PTSC will be working on are boats involved in essential business operations. For example, Fishing vessels (food supply), Emergency Service Vessels, Fire, Tow, Rescue, Military. In addition, we may manufacture personal safety equipment. We will not be working on Recreational Vessels during this Stay Home Order.

In addition, we have strict safety protocols while at work, including the number of people allowed on a vessel or in any enclosed space at a time. We will ask employees to report their temperatures at the beginning of each work day. We will have a 72 hour quarantine period from when the owner and crew drop off a vessel to when we may begin working on the vessel. In addition, we will not allow visitors, or even boat owners in our buildings, or on the boats that we are working on...

I am asking the Port, and the other businesses in the Port to please do their very best to protect our community. If possible, please stay at home. I am not implying that the Port or other businesses should only work on certain types of boats, only that if it is necessary to work, then please be diligent in how you work and how you bring vessels, boat owners, and crew into the Port. If anyone would like to see PTSC's complete list of Safety Guidelines send me an email and I will forward them to you.

Thank you,
Chris Brignoli
Port Townsend Shipwrights
Email: cbptship@gmail.com

From: Joel Kawahara <joelkaw@earthlink.net>

Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 7:06 AM

To: Pam Petranek <Pam@portofpt.com>; Pete Hanke <phanke@portofpt.com>; Bill Putney <bill@portofpt.com>

Subject: moorage and rent deferment at port

April 5, 2020

Port of Port Townsend

Board of Commissioners

Dear Commissioners,

As I am certain you know, the COVID-19 pandemic is causing significant business disruption in all sectors of the American economy. This will have a detrimental effect on the ability of moorage customers and other port tenants to stay current on their payments to the port. I am writing to offer support for a tenant relief program as a way to promote resilience in the customer base.

First of all, you don't want your existing tenant base to disappear. You would be stuck with a lot of stranded properties with no tenants. Rebuilding your tenant base will take time and extend the period of lost revenue beyond the end of the pandemic restrictions.

Secondly, you don't want to seize a bunch of boats for back moorage. Given the economic situation, there is a high likelihood of people just abandoning their boats when faced with significant debt to the Port. You also may have to deal with some owners who pass away and leave their estate to clean up debts, a mess that takes a lot of time for each individual. It may be better if the Port doesn't end up holding the lines on such boats.

Third, the Port of Bellingham has apparently enacted a policy of tenant rent deferral (<https://www.portofbellingham.com/DocumentCenter/View/9308/AI-1>) on April 3, 2020. As with any business, a significantly different arrangement in any location causes disruption across the business sector. The implication of Bellingham having a rent/moorage deferral program means some vessel owners will simply leave Port Townsend and become permanent moorage customers in Bellingham. Or other strategies may be applicable, but Bellingham ends up looking like they at least tried to keep their customers during this stupid pandemic.

A quick update on disruptions within the commercial fishing arena. There are currently very few marketing opportunities for seafood across the nation. Most seafood is consumed in American restaurants. Restaurants are serving take out of their most basic best sellers - hamburgers and fish and chips for instance, not grilled coho with tarragon basted beets.

Even though halibut and blacked long lining are open in Alaska, there are few boats fishing or landing fish. Prices have dropped. Salmon seasons on the west coast typically start May 1. Both California and Oregon have proposals to delay their seasons to June. Washington will open but two major coastal ports, Neah Bay and La Push are not expected to be open for commerce until at least June. It is unclear if the fish houses in other ports can even find crew to operate. Albacore tuna may be caught, but the major canneries in South East Asia are closed to protect their workers from the coronavirus. Prices are expected to be down significantly this year across species.

Joel Kawahara
F/V Karolee

From: joshua wheeler <wheelersf@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, April 8, 2020 12:39 AM

To: Abigail Berg <abigail@portofpt.com>

Subject: Liveaboard Question for the 4/8/20 Meeting

Abigail,

First, thank you and your colleagues for your work in these very trying times. My name is Joshua Wheeler. I am presently a liveaboard at Point Hudson Marina on a small recreational vessel. I am a new resident of Port Townsend since November with limited contacts and knowledge of local customs. I have employment within the Port. I can see and understand that the Port leaders have much bigger concerns than what I am going to present. Still, this is of great importance to me.

As of the latest Emergency Order, I have received the message that I am required to leave Point Hudson Marina by May 5th. I have nowhere to go, and the thought of living off the waterfront, at anchor, without electricity and access to water, during a pandemic, is a source of great anxiety. Due to the present Port Office access, I am unable to have a conversation with someone with the authority to work out a reasonable solution with me.

I am not new to living aboard, and my boat is small(24 feet.) Experience and observations have shown me that there is usually a creative way to fit a small boat somewhere if the will is there. I am hoping this is the case now.

The Port Commissioners' Meeting's time is valuable to the greater community. Addressing this outside of it seems best for all. I am not asking for a deferment as I am willing and able to pay monthly rates. I am just looking for some reasonable security during this pandemic.

To present it in a question:

"How can I have a conversation with someone with the authority to work out a solution for a Port Townsend resident and liveaboard, to continue as such during this pandemic, whether at Point Hudson or Boat Haven?"

Thank you so much for your time and consideration. If I can help in any way, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Joshua Wheeler

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