



NORTH CAROLINA AQUARIUM AT PINE KNOLL SHORES  
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**North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores  
Pier Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
Aug. 4, 2009**

**Present:**

Dr. Bogus- Chair  
Jay Barnes- Aquarium Director  
Frank Rush- Emerald Isle Town Manager  
Mal Boyette- Committee Member  
Jim Woolard- Committee Member  
Don Eglinton- Committee Member  
Rick Luettich- Committee Member  
Randy Mason- Committee Member  
Alex McFadyen- Committee Member  
Greg "Rudi" Rudolph- Committee Member  
Tim Reid- Moffatt & Nichol, Principal in Charge  
Mike Winters- Moffatt & Nichol, Project Manager  
Jeff Sheldon- Moffatt & Nichol, Coastal Engineer  
Jennifer Amster- BJAC  
Mark Sealy- BJAC  
James Briglia- BJAC  
Lisa Stover- Minutes

**Absent:**

Art Schools- Emerald Isle Mayor

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Bogus. Jay opened with a few comments.

Jay's last day with the Aquarium will be Oct. 31, 2009. He still will be associated with the Pier Committee in efforts to smooth the way for the new Director. He also wants to stay involved with the committee because it is a project he feels very strongly about.

Dr. Bogus asked about the status of finding a replacement for Jay; there is a nationwide search and Jay hopes that a replacement will be found before the end of the year. Jay would help the new Director ease into the position.

Jay mentioned that there had been some news articles about the Jennette's Pier project recently, and that it had become a topic of discussion in the General Assembly. Construction of that facility is ongoing, and they are making great progress. Be sure to look for updates on the Aquariums' website. The

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successful completion of Jennette's Pier is very critical to our project. When Jennette's is completed, it will be an amazing facility. Jay felt it is important for this committee and the Aquarium Society Board to continue speaking out and strongly support the three-pier concept.

Mike Wagoner, President of the Carteret County Chamber of Commerce, sent a letter to legislative leaders and Governor Perdue in support of the Emerald Isle Pier project. Jay really appreciates the Chamber's strong support. Dr. Bogus made a comment on the study of the economic impact of the pier. This could be good support for the pier. When the situation with Bogue Pier was being discussed, Joy Pierson had a petition with over 10,000 signatures supporting the project. Louis Daniel mentioned during our last meeting that a member of his team applied for a grant to study the economic and demographic data associated with North Carolina piers. Once completed, it should give us data on who actually uses piers.

At the last meeting, Moffatt & Nichol was informed of a potential \$1 million diversion of WAMI funds from our project. After doing a reduced scope for design services, David Griffin came back a few days later and said that the WAMI money would not be affected and would go through with the original scope ASAP. Chris Ivers and Mike Winters (Moffatt & Nichol) have discussed expanding the scope of the project to include everything we wanted that was not included in the original proposal. The general idea is to scale back if needed, but at this time we will put everything on the table. Basically the allotted money could get us through the completion of the construction documents. We looked at doing several different things as far as testing in the end versus testing up front. It was decided testing up front was the best idea. Since the WAMI money was not affected, it was decided to move forward with scope proposal in order to have a contract drawn up. The contract is under review by the state but with Jay's and David Griffin's input, there shouldn't be a problem.

At the first meeting, the cost of the Emerald Isle Pier was quoted at \$16 or \$17 million. But if we are looking at a pier similar to Jennette's Pier, the cost could be closer to \$23 or \$24 million. Jay remarked that at the time the original amount did not seem plausible with all we wanted included in the scope. The scope will be considered with all the items we want, and if needed, then we will have to scale it down.

Another question asked was how the cost was broken down; by the building size or by square footage? At this time, the cost is broken down by labor, concrete, building materials etc. Jim B. commented that once the building of the pier house is in progress, the cost would not vary by much if it is 15,000 square feet instead of 10,000. However, the 10,000-square-foot limit is set by CAMA, and exceeding that amount will require a variance from its rules.

The question was asked on who gives final approval on the budget for the pier? David Griffin has the final approval, but at the same time he values the input from the Committee. The Committee was formed to give all the input necessary, such as the needs and wants for the pier and also to budget for these wants, giving David the final say-so as to approval or for scaling back on some areas.

Dr. Bogus stated the pier objective is: Annex to Aquarium, family-oriented, pier fishing and coastal research platform with beach access. With these objectives in mind, the challenges for designing were discussed. One thought on designing the parking lot is to have one-way driving. You would come in

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and drive around the outer perimeters of the lot while the center lanes would travel in both directions. The parking lot could accommodate as many as 166 spaces. There is a possibility of obtaining more space further away but still accessible to the pier.

Moffatt & Nichol showed one preliminary design for the pier house and pier. Questions were asked about different designs for the pier concerning shelters and locations for fishermen to clean their catches. One thought was to extend certain locations on the pier where people can sit, locations with benches along the sides of the pier, shelters, decks, and having a central location for the fishermen also. There is concern also with the pier house concerning the size and location. Is it to be centered with the pier or to be located more to the west; should it be 10,000 square feet or 15,000 square feet?

One concern of the pier house design is that you will get a lot of traffic from fishermen going to the pier through the pier house; perhaps a walk around the pier house to avoid entering the building would be possible. A possible plan would be to enter the pier house where a central cashier station would be located in order for people to purchase items they need. Questions that came from the meeting are: will the pier house be open 24 hours? What size does the pier house need to be? Should the exhibit space be in a darker area? Where should the citation station be located?

The mechanical-electrical system was discussed and there are several options or we could use the same as Jennette's Pier. The options are being looked at.

A public meeting was discussed and everyone thought it was a good idea. The date Sept. 19 was not good for Dr. Bogus. After some discussion, it was felt that perhaps more could be shared if we were farther along in the planning process, and a public forum was postponed until further notice.

Next meeting will be held Sept. 23 at 10 a.m. in the conference room.

