

FALMOUTH HARBOR/WATERFRONT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
April 17, 2008

Meeting called to order at 8:05 AM

Members Present: Chairman Stephen Archambault, Richard Garrett, John Winslow, Peter Leavitt

Members Absent: Manny Kourinos, William Oliver, Jay Hallett

Others Present: Councilor David Libby, Chief Edward Tolan, Kim Maxfield-Fearon, minutes, Harbormaster Kevin Cady

Members of the public: 7

Item I: Chairperson Comments:

“Dinghy Day” went smoothly, all dinghy stickers were handed out by 8:20 AM.

Item II: Minutes approved: Peter Leavitt made a motion to accept minutes, John Winslow seconded. Minutes approved.

Item III: Public Comment

Peter Arnaman of Gorham did not receive a dinghy permit. He arrived on the date they were handed out at 7:00 AM and 30 people had already received place holders for non-resident dinghies. His complaint was that he did not receive notification that someone from the Town would be handing out place holders beginning at 4:00 AM until after they permits were all gone.

Matt Arrants of Falmouth would like the number of dinghy permits increased to cover those who showed up on 4/12/08. He had the same problem with not getting the information about the place holders until after the fact.

Andy Hyland of Falmouth would like to see temporary permits issued to those on the waiting list until such time as there is a launch service.

Rob McDaniel of Falmouth would also like to see more permits or temporary permits issued to those on the waiting list.

Chairman Archambault explained that the Town Council set the number of dinghy permits at 60 resident and 30 non resident. This was done after the town’s insurer deemed the dinghy situation

“unacceptable” and that if the situation wasn’t addressed, there would have to be a review of the Town’s insurance policy. The Harbor/Waterfront Committee had recommended 60 resident and 10 nonresident permits. The Committee can make recommendations to the Council but it’s the Town Council that makes the final decision. It is hopeful that a launch service will be established for Town Landing in the future. He suggested to Matt that he attend the next Town Council meeting but warned him that it is approximately a 3 month process to get an ordinance changed. He pointed out that the summer rangers were very helpful to those who had to carry their dinghies and that one resident has volunteered to share theirs. The Town looked into putting in some dinghies belonging to the Town for public use but after talking to the town attorney it was rejected due to the liability issues involved. He told them the next council meeting is 4/28/08.

It was noted that the information on the place holders that were issued would be available starting at 4:00 AM was placed on the Town website, the public cable channel and an ad was taken out in the Forecaster.

There was discussion over how to address the problem of those who did not receive dinghy permits, suggestions included storing dinghies against the wall, issuing permits to those on the waiting list, issuing permits just for this year and try to do a better job relaying information for next year, and issuing permits to store dinghies by the wall.

Chairman Archambault indicated that Manny Kourinos and Bill Oliver were not in favor of increasing the number of permits, nor was he.

More discussion and a vote was taken:

Motion was made to ask the Town Council to temporarily increase the number of dinghies at Town Landing to cover those that came on 4/12/08 but did not receive a permit.

2 - in favor 2 – opposed 3 – absent

Chairman Archambault stated that preliminary indications from the information received from the consultant to date, lean toward the recommendation of the elimination of all dinghies except commercial and handicap, and to provide a launch service operating from the Town Landing.

There was further minor discussion on issue including the pros and cons of a launch service.

Harbormaster Report:

1262 Applications for mooring permits were mailed out:
653 to Falmouth Residents 609 to Non-Residents
1117 have been returned and processed
There are currently 1254 permits processed and pending as a number
of people have chosen not to keep a mooring with Falmouth any
longer.

Kevin reported that the Town has received a grant from the state for
software and consulting fees for the landing in the amount of
\$14,700.00.

Dinghy Day – 60 resident and 30 non-resident permits were issued, 9
people on the waiting 8 residents, 1 non-resident.

8 pier-side floats have been installed in the water

Patrol boat is being readied for launch.

Mention of moving to Phase II of the harbor project was made and
John Winslow asked where we stood with Phase I. Chairman
Archambault told him that Phase I has been completed and the
company has been paid. A completed final report, containing
information from Phase 1, will be presented to the Town Manager at
the completion of Phase II.

Peter Leavitt asked if change the date of the mooring process has
accomplished what it was set out to do and was told that yes, in fact it
has.

Chairman Archambault asked how many were on the waiting list for
moorings, Harbormaster Cady told him 48.

After 4/20/08, Harbormaster Cady will be sending a final notice to
those who have still not paid for their moorings.

Councilor Libby asked if the Harbormaster was checking on those
claiming to be residents and was told that he was as best he could at
this time.

Item IV: A – The sub-committee has put together a scope of services outline for
Malone & McBroom.

B – There is no equipment available to address the problem of
emptying the port-a-potties on boats,

C – Richard Garrett asked to follow up on the request for Falmouth

PD to monitor channel 16. Chief Tolan said that due to the abundance of chatter that goes on that channel dispatchers would not be monitoring it as they have a number of other channels they need to monitor. Harbormaster Cady told him that the USCG has people who monitor that channel and should there be an emergency in our anchorage, they will contact him.

Item V: A - David Bragg and Andrew Manning from Malone & McBroom were in attendance and made a presentation outlining their proposal for addressing Phase II of the project. They will be putting together a proposal and forwarding it to Harbormaster Cady and Chairman Archambault.

B. Councilor Libby commented that it was important to get the ordinances done in a timely manner. They need to be ready in September in order to meet the January deadline.

Item VI All meetings for the Harbor/Waterfront Committee have been posted on the Town's website.

The next meeting for the Harbor/Waterfront committee is scheduled for 5/15/08 at 8:00 AM. Location is to be determined.

Item VII Chairman Archambault made a motion to adjourn, Peter Leavitt seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:28 AM.