

Harbor/Waterfront Committee Meeting

April 28, 2006

Minutes

Members present: Chairperson Maura McGowan, Richard Garrett, John Winslow, Peter Leavitt, Stephen Archambault, Jay Hallett, Bill Oliver

Staff present: Chief Ed Tolan, Assistant Harbormasters Kevin Cady and Rick Freese.

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson McGowan at 8:02 am.

Introductions: Maura introduced the two new assistant harbormasters and the two new members to the harbor committee.

Request for a secretary: Chief Tolan advised the committee that the town clerk is no longer available for recording of minutes. Mr. Winslow said he will take the minutes if he could record the meetings. Chief will contact the clerk's office for a recorder.

Public Forum: Mr. Mealy spoke about the number of moorings and how they have increased, approximately 200, directly in front of his property, which reduces his property value. He asked if some could be moved or removed. He also spoke about the lack of fairways in the harbor. He requested information on the fecal testing being done. Mr. Cady advised that DMR is conducting testing on a continuous basis and will report to the town if any problems arise.

Minutes: *Motion by Archambault, seconded by Oliver, to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Winslow advised the committee that he felt that several items were missing from the minutes and would like the meetings recorded.*

Mr. Leavitt made a second motion to accept the minutes with Mr. Winslow's comments, seconded by McGowan. Voted 7-0 to accept the minutes with Mr. Winslow's comments

Harbormaster's report: Mr. Cady advised the committee on the status of the moratorium and that a waiting list, currently with 13 names, is in place in the clerk's office. He discussed recent meetings with the U.S. Coast Guard and the Portland Harbormaster to expand our cooperative relationships and the intent to have a more visible presence on the water this year. He will be working with Jay Hallett on the placement of new moorings (PYC and Handy applicants). Mr. Cady advised the boat has been extensively service and is ready to go in the water. The front floats may be in next week.

Mr. Archambault asked what the procedure would be if someone gives up or sells their mooring. Mr. Cady advised of the issues surrounding the sale of

moorings/permit numbers that has occurred in the past. Due to a gray area in the ordinance it was not clear as to the policy of the town on this. However, Mr. Cady had checked with the Army Corps and reviewed the law and this will no longer be permitted.

Mr. Leavitt suggested that we allow those people that were allowed to do this (approximately 6) to have a mooring for this year. *Motion made by Leavitt, seconded by Oliver, to allow people who received permission from the harbormaster during the past year to transfer ownership of a mooring, contingent upon their boat being equal or less in size to the previous boat, to purchase the permit.* Voted 6-1 (Garrett)

Mr. Leavitt stated that he believes the harbormaster has authority to regulate the number of moorings and he should have the full support of the committee.

Mr. Garrett asked about the status of the USCG buoys. Assistant Freese will check with the Coast Guard and report back.

Mr. Winslow suggested a sign advising dinghy owners that they check with the harbormaster before placing their dinghy. He suggested a sign with this information. A discussion ensued as to one sign with multiple areas of information rather than many signs. Items on the sign would be in regard to placement/registration of dinghys, no swimming from the facility, and to check the website for further information.

Mr. Leavitt stated that he felt it was unfair to place a cap on the number of dinghys when people have moorings and there is no launch service. Mr. Winslow suggested a compromise on the dinghy cap for this year. He suggested a 2 week grace period before the harbormaster removes any dinghy for non-compliance. Mr. Leavitt suggested it should be left up to the harbormaster when they are removed. Chief Tolan advised that one must be removed we would have public works due it and probably would not charge a fee.

Mr. Leavitt suggested a sub-committee to review the dinghy, parking and launch service issues. Mr. Cady suggested section 9-95 (F) of the *Coastal Waters Ordinance* be reviewed for a change.

Mr. Cady will take care of the sign for the office area.

Old business:

Mr. Cady provided information on the status of a replacement boat for 2007. Currently 3 companies have been contacted for information. Mr. Winslow asked for the boat sub-committee review the material and explore other vendors.

Chairperson McGowan gave a very brief update on the moratorium.

Chairperson McGowan advised that the "Special Anchorage" issue is in the hands of the Coast Guard and should be posted in a draft form on the Federal Register

shortly. When this occurs we will provide a link to the town's website for public comment.

New business:

Mr. Winslow spoke on the work that his sub-committee has done on the mooring field; software for tracking position of moorings, maintaining riparian areas for waterfront property owners, the need to identify access points, and a recommendation of approximately 275 moorings with a Town Landing access, 310 from PYC and 350 from Handy.

Mr. Jerome Watts from *Oest Associates* made a presentation on the need for better planning of the mooring field, the use of GIS and a consultant search.

The committee suggested putting together information for the town council and a RFP for a consultant.

Mr. Winslow wants to have the committee review the *Coastal Waters Ordinance* and to have any recommended changes ready for the town council by Sept. 1st.

Mr. Leavitt suggested having the committee establish a timeline for these projects at the next meeting.

The following committees were established:

Launch/parking/shuttle/dinghys – Leavitt, Archambault, Oliver
Consultant search – McGowan, Winslow
Anchorage redefinition – Winslow, Garrett, Hallett, Oliver
Boat replacement - Winslow, Hallett, Cady, Freese

Next meeting: May 16th at 6:00 pm in the conference room

Motion to adjourn by Oliver, seconded by Leavitt. Voted 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 am