

**HARBOR / WATERFRONT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
7/17/08**

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Steve Archambault, John Winslow, Bill Oliver, Jay Hallett, Manny Kourinos

Absent: Peter Leavitt, Richard Garrett

Others Present: Harbormaster Kevin Cady, Assistant Harbormaster Brigham McKenney; Councilor David Libby, Chief Edward Tolan, and Andrew Manning of Milone & McBroom

Members of the Public: 2

Item I: Chairperson Comment:

Has received positive comments on the 24/7 pump-out station and the municipal dinghies.

Item II: Review/Approve Minutes of 6/19/08 and 7/8/08 Committee Meetings

Bill Oliver made a motion to approve minutes of the 6/19/08 meeting, Jay Hallett seconded, minutes voted on and approved.

Bill Oliver made a motion to approve the minutes of the 7/8/08 meeting, Jay Hallett seconded, minutes voted on and approved.

Item III: Public Comment

None

Item IV: Harbormaster Report

1273 moorings for last year
1243 moorings this year
Has added 42 new moorings

Waiting list: 54 residents, 34 nonresidents

Assistant Harbormaster Richard Freese has been transferred to Boston and will be unable to work his hours at the Town Landing. Brigham McKenney has been promoted to Assistant Harbormaster. James Tolan has been hired to take Brigham's place as a ranger for the 8 weeks remaining of the season.

They are still working the bugs out of the GIS software. He will hopefully have it up and running in a few days.

The pump-out station has been down since Saturday. LA Management will be here tomorrow to (hopefully) repair it.

There are 50+ people signed up to use the dinghies. There has only been one mishap where an oar was broken and the involved party will be taking responsibility for its replacement.

Approximately 10 – 12 delinquent moorings have been pulled out of the water.

Item V: Unfinished Business:

- A. Recommended to move the August meeting from 8/21 to 8/14/08 to provide more time to look over the consultant's report.
- B. Andrew Manning presented the consultant report for Milone & McBroom. He passed out copies to the committee. At this time, the plans with the GIS information were not available but will be in a few days. It was decided to present the report to the Council in PowerPoint format. Chief Tolan advised that the Town Manager may ask that it be made available to put on the Town's website. Andrew indicated that would be possible.

They have built upon the previous report which had addressed the three major issues – Parking; Launch/Access; and Anchorage Layout as separate issues. He said these needed to be addressed as a whole project.

The database being used is a work in progress until all the bugs have been worked out.

He has refined what was discussed in the prior meeting. He walked through the report which touched on issues dealing with current economics, the permit form access points and GPS coordinates.

A study over 5 days at different times showed:

763 vehicles/ pedestrian groups used the Town Landing
307 used it for water bound activity
459 used it for land based activity.

Some of the recommendations included:

Parking

Maintaining a mooring moratorium until the parking issue is addressed. This applies to Town Landing only. The recommendation is 1 space per 4 moorings. With the current number of moorings, 88 spaces will be needed. Suggested that parking for boaters be off site. He said that if the waiting list were to be filled there would need to be new parking for an

additional 15 vehicles and 10 trailers.

Chief Tolan asked about the possibility of building the unmarked spaces up and reserving them for commercial use. Andrew said he would have to check with the Army Corps of Engineers on that but thought it was possible.

Dinghy / Launch Service

Mark Smith asked what the maximum number of moorings had been, the number was 1280. He also indicated that a number of the moorings were unoccupied and wondered what the percentage of unused moorings was. Andrew did not have a figure. Steve Archambault said that the Harbormaster was keeping an eye on the issue and will address the problem of people holding onto moorings that they were not using. Further discussion on what to do about unused moorings and Bill Oliver suggested that the focus return to the report which Steve Archambault agreed with.

The recommendation is that the Town start looking into a launch service as the mooring field and parking increase. The current dinghy storage is a temporary fix.

He recommended a 3rd party launch service and also gave figures on the cost of the Town providing a service. There was discussion on the figures offered. Chief Tolan mentioned that it has been discussed by the committee in the past. There was brief discussion on the need for the Town to create guidelines should the Town use a private service.

Mark Smith said that 2 companies have tried to provide launch service in the past and both failed. Steve Archambault said that there were more dinghies at the landing at the time to compete with. Chief Tolan indicated that in order for a launch service to work, dinghies would have to be eliminated.

Mooring Field

Briefly covered the need to re-configure the mooring field and group the boats by size. Andrew recommended that minimum and maximum lengths of chain be established.

Mark Smith asked who will pay for the repositioning of the boats. It was suggested that most of the repositioning would be minimal and could be done at the time of inspection. If someone changes boat sizes and the mooring has to be moved to different section of the field, that will have to be addressed.

Reconfiguration should be started from the perimeter and work in. The reconfigured anchorage is the long term plan. The mooring holders

need to be made aware of what's going to happen and the costs associated with the changes.

Chief Tolan said that the committee and the council need to be prepared to back up the Harbormaster when the changes are implemented as he anticipates a large amount of negative feedback when the changes begin.

John Winslow asked if any consideration to riparian land owners was looked at. Andrew said that it was not addressed. Will add language for it.

Jay Hallett wanted it on the record that areas of the report make him concerned that the Town will be in direct competition with his business.

Steve Archambault said that his concerns will be addressed and considered when the plans are implemented.

Steve Archambault asked about a maximum number of boats the Town Landing can currently handle. Andrew told him that that is addressed in the report on page 5.

John Winslow asked about the environmental impact of the changes. Andrew told him that the only impact he foresees would be the new parking lot.

C. Unlisted Items

None

VI New Business

A. Access Point Definition:

This was tabled as Peter Leavitt was the one with this concern and he was not present to discuss the issue

B. Unlisted items:

None

VII Next Meeting:

August 14, 2008 8:00 Falmouth Police Department

VII Adjourn:

Jay Hallett moved to adjourn, William Oliver seconded. Voted on and meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.