

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Steve Archambault, William Oliver, Peter Leavitt, Richard Garrett, Jay Hallett, Manny Kourinos

Absent: None

Others: Harbormaster Kevin Cady, Chief Edward Tolan, Counselor David Libby, Andrew Manning of Milone & McBroom, Kim Maxfield-Fearon

Members of public: None

Item I: Chairperson Comment

Will need to elect a replacement vice chair in light of John Winslow's resignation. Will need to develop a long term time table for implementation of the plan and potential launch service.

Item II: Review/Approve minutes of 7/17/08 Committee Meeting

Bill Oliver made a motion to approve the minutes of the 7/17/08 meeting. Pete Leavitt seconded, minutes voted on and approved.

Item III: Public Comment

None

Item IV: Election of new Committee Vice Chairperson

Manny Kourinos was nominated, Bill Oliver made motion and Pete Leavitt seconded, and voted in unanimously as Vice-Chair of the committee.

Item V: Harbormaster Report:

Currently 1243 moorings.

The new GIS software is in a trial phase.

The pump-out station is in operation and being heavily used.

One of the skiffs was stolen but located a few days later with the stickers removed. The program is working well and there is a list of 80 using them.

Have been busy with water rescues, most notably an elderly man was pulled

from the water by East End Beach in Portland and Don Staples was pulled out of the water at Town Landing. Fortunately Mr. Staples was wearing a life jacket at the time.

The Coast Guard has provided fuel assistance of approximately \$1900 so far this season. At this time only \$400 has been spent out of the Harbor's fuel budget.

Grant money for the outboards and forward seeking infrared for the Harbor Master boat will be release in October and this work will be done during the off season. Are also looking to replace the orange collar on the boat at a cost of between \$5000 and \$6000.

Falmouth has assisted the Coast Guard with 6 CAT escorts and 3 large cruise ship escorts. Were also invited to the lobster boat races in Harpswell last month. Kevin was invited to participate in training when the President came to Maine. He rode with the Coast Guard.

The Marine Unit provided assistance to Casco Baylines when their ferry boat got stuck on the rocks near Basket Island in Cumberland this past Friday. They assisted with a diabetic passenger in getting her off the boat and to the rescue that took her to MMC and also assisted in the transfer of over 90 people to another ferry. Both Harbormaster Cady and Assistant Harbormaster Brigham McKenney, were commended by Chief Tolan for their outstanding performance in response to this emergency. There will be a review on 8/15/08 with the Falmouth Marine Unit, Casco Bay Lines, USCG, Falmouth FD, Marine Patrol, Long Island, and the City of Portland. Among issues to be discussed will be that the Coast Guard called Kevin Cady directly, and did not go through dispatch.

Item VI: Unfinished Business

A. Consultant Update and Presentation

Andrew Manning provided the committee with copies of the updated report which had been revised from comments by the committee.

He will transfer the report, maps, and data into a PDF file and will give the GIS data to Kevin to use.

The report addresses recommendations on a maximum number of boats and moorings.

Reminder to keep in mind the economic impacts of any changes made to the current mooring operations. He indicated this is out of their scope of expertise but just to be aware that any change will have an impact.

Current parking can support 250 moorings. Need an additional 88

spaces to accommodate the 350 moorings currently accessed by Town Landing.

It was asked if the existing parking area at the Landing can be built up and expanded. The answer is that it could not be done.

Discussion about Handy Boat and the impact any launch service would have on them. Should the Town begin competing with them (i.e. launch service) and impact their business, Handy Boat may no longer operate as a marina.

Dinghy utilization limits the number of moorings able to be accessed from Town Landing to 400. Using a Launch service will increase the number. In order to access the 400 boats, there would need to be another 15 parking spaces, in addition to the 88 previously mentioned needed to accommodate the 350 existing moorings.

Suggested time limited parking at the Town Landing. Discussion on enforcement, staffing, etc.

Recommends getting rid of private dinghies and increasing the Town's dinghies to 10 and initiating a launch service.

More questions about Handy Boat's situation at which point Chief Tolan pointed out that the concern of this committee is the Town Landing, not Handy Boat.

Richard Garrett feels that the only real problems are on Holidays and some weekends and is opposed to limiting parking other than those times. Feels that cutting back the number of moorings would be a better idea.

Revamped the launch services numbers and indicate that it would cost an additional \$225 - \$250 per mooring (accessed by Town Landing) to cover the cost of a launch services.

Chairman Archambault pointed out it would be several years before this was in place, however the committee needs to have a plan in place when the time comes.

Andrew Manning noted that the mooring field could accommodate 1700 boats but that number would never be reached as the land facilities will not support that number.

Showed current mooring field and proposed ideal (grid) field. There was discussion on the mooring field and thoughts on how to transition from current to new.

Brief discussion on how to proceed with the plan once approved by the

Town Council.

Chief Tolan emphasized the need to keep the rangers at the landing when discussing budget as they provide a great deal of help in the day to day operation of the Town Landing.

B. Access Point Definition Discussion

Tabled

C. Unlisted Items

None

Item VII: New Business

A. Discussion on Implementation of a Long Term Timetable

Created a subcommittee for the long range plan. Members are: Bill Oliver, Jay Hallett, Steve Archambault and Kevin Cady. Will meet after the Town Council meeting.

B. Unlisted Items

None

Item VII: Confirm Date for Next Meeting

September 18, 2008 8:00 AM Falmouth Police Station

ADJOURN

Jay Hallett made a motion to adjourn, Richard Garrett seconded, voted and meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.