

**HARBOR / WATERFRONT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**May 16, 2013, 8:00 AM**  
**Falmouth Town Hall**

**I. ROLL CALL**

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM. Present were: Chairperson Richie Garrett, Paul Dobbins, Jay Hallett, William Oliver, Emmanuel Kourinos, Richard Craven, Peter Thornton, Harbormaster Alan Twombly, Kimmerly Maxfield-Fearon

Members of the public: Lyman Kennedy

**II. CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS**

Richie Garrett had suggested banning "dinghy day" but it was decided to keep it in place thanks to Peter Thornton and Richard Craven.

There had been resistance to the recommendation to make improvements on the ramp but it has been done. Paul Dobbins and Alan Twombly worked together to make this happen.

Richie feels this is a good committee and would like to keep as close to Roberts Rules for the meeting format.

**III. APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Jay Hallett made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2011 meeting, William Oliver seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved by the committee.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lyman Kennedy spoke on his concerns with Nappi leaving his box truck parked in the parking lot for an extended period of time. It had been parked there from October until Lyman spoke with Nick. It turned ugly. He checked, and the ordinance doesn't address issue. The neighbors were all in agreement. A check of the town ordinance governing the parking lots made no mention of time limits of vehicles parked in the lot. There were many calls to the Harbormaster and to the police department to get the truck removed. No one responded. In the past, he had been ordered to move his truck during snowstorms. Lyman gave a history of the problems with the parking lot, along with a list of current problems with, in his opinion, improper use of the parking lot. He came to try to get the ordinance changed. He also feels that it unsafe as people are using it as a cut-through.

Time up

Richie feels that the committee should look into the ordinance and make some recommendations. Is not sure what the harbor committee's role will be but they will evaluate his concerns and study the ordinance and see what can be done.

Bill Oliver – Does the harbor committee have any authority over the ordinance covering the parking lot?

Richie – yes, we do.

Harbormaster Twombly feels that it does. There is an ordinance that addresses parking and parking lots but where this lot is annexed to the town landing, the harbor committee can make recommendations. Some of his other issues are addressed in other ordinances.

Bill Oliver – should address the issue.

Richie – would like everyone to comment as he feels it is an important issue.

Jay Hallett – thought there had been signs indicating 24 hour parking.

Harbormaster Twombly – 24 hour trailer parking, but not for vehicles, that's where people are allowed to park when they go for overnight sails.

Paul Dobbins – feels it's a matter of enforcing existing rules and perhaps tweaking some of them.

Harbormaster Twombly - In short – the rules are that if you are a non resident you have to park in non resident parking spaces, and a sign 24 hour trailer parking. He and the Chief have looked into the ordinance in response to Mr. Kennedy's concerns.

Peter Thornton is familiar with the problem and agrees something needs to be done, but feels that it may be a matter of going to the zoning board.

Manny Kourinos understands the complaint and agrees that it's a problem, perhaps a weight limit?

Lyman Kennedy feels that they are not respecting the rules for the parking lot and creating problems for the residents.

Richard Craven commented that he understood that part of the problem is residents using the lot as their personal parking lot.

Lyman Kennedy commented that he just wanted to get the issue out and the ball started rolling.

RG – what are the 5 bullets he would like addressed.

Lyman Kennedy said that his concerns are that the lot is not being used for intended use and need to tighten up before it gets out of hand. He wasn't expecting results today.

Bill Oliver said that it looks like the committee will need to re-write the ordinance.

Harbormaster Twombly suggested forming a committee to change the ordinance. Come up with some outlines and he will work with Chief Tolan to change it.

Richard Craven, Peter Thornton, Richard Garrett and Allan Twombly volunteered for the sub-committee to work on this.

Paul Dobbins suggested looking at all groups using the lot.

Manny Kourinos remembers that another piece of property had been purchased by the town for overflow parking.

Richard Garrett commented on the fact that when the Brown house was purchased it was vetoed by the neighbors. Sub-committee will meet soon. They will meet after this meeting to discuss the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Lyman Kennedy also wanted to comment on the fact that there was no ladder on the floats and that makes them dangerous. If someone falls off, there's no ladder to get back up.

Feels town landing is inefficient. They should move the floats from the dinghy dock to the end. Discussion on floats.

Also brought up disappointment with the use of the Brown property.

## V. HARBORMASTER REPORT

### **Moorings:**

Total	1103 (2012-1103)	(2011-1074)
Received	1074 (2012-1074)	(2011-1058)
Not Renewing	45 (2012-44)	(2011 – 36)
Renewal Incomplete	19 plus 2 under review	
New Moorings	37 plus 1 incomplete (2012 – 32 plus 8 incomplete) (2011 – 21)	

### **Wait List**

Resident	17 (2012 – 35)	(2011 – 68)
Non-Resident	11 (2012 – 8)	(2011 – 44)

### **Late Notices**

Final late notices were certified mailed on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **Town Landing Permits**

14 permits issued for Town Landing and 3 refusals so far.

## **Floats**

All floats are in as of Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **V. AGENDA ITEM**

### **A. Presentation by Council Liaison of proposed mooring fee increase.**

Karen was supposed to propose a fee increase in the mooring fees of \$10 for residents and \$50 for non-residents but did not show up for the meeting.

The boat is getting old and will need to be replaced. A new boat will cost approximately \$270,000. The proposed fee increase (over several years) would be to defer the cost of replacing the boat so there would be no need to come up with a bond issue for that.

Jay Hallett – the money that used to be set aside for improvements was transferred into the general fund.

Bill Harbormaster said yes.

Bill asked if there was surplus. Harbormaster said yes, but he doesn't know how much.

Bill Oliver, How do we find out? He'll check with the Chief.

There was discussion on the issue of the old capital reserve account that had been funded for such purchases but has recently been done away with it in the town budget, due to new practices by the finance department. Used to plan for it, had the money for it, but now we don't.

Paul Dobbins would like to see the financials on the harbor. A sub-committee was formed to look at the matter of the funding of the town landing.

Bill Oliver sees the increase as just more money to the general fund.

Jay Hallett feels that if this is the new philosophy, if you need a new boat, just ask for it.

Manny Kourinos expressed his concerns that there was supposed to be money set aside for the maintenance and improvements to the landing. He suggested if they were going to raise any fees, it should be the parking stickers.

Richard Craven agreed with Manny, that the increased would not directly help the town landing.

Peter Thornton would like to see the figures.

Paul Dobbins feels that the mooring fees should be used for the Town Landing.

Richard Garrett – it has been brought up many times, where does the money go from the mooring fees? The answer is the general fund. He doesn't support an increase in the mooring fees as it will not go specifically to the Town Landing.

After some brief discussion, it was agreed amongst the committee members that a fee increase would not be supported.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

The bungee mooring equipment was brought up and it was decided that the committee would monitor it until such time as the environmentalists pushed for it.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **VIII. NEXT MEETING**

The subcommittee will come up with the next meeting date.

## **ADDRESSING MR. KENNEDY'S CONCERNS**

Manny brought up the issue of a ladder on the float.

Since swimming is not permitted at the town landing, it is feared that a ladder would encourage people to swim. You are required to have a life jacket in a dinghy so if you fall in, you will float and someone can pull you in, and there is a winter ladder.

Harbormaster Twombly feels that a ladder will encourage swimming and shouldn't be added.

It was determined that neither Handy Boat nor PYC have a ladder to the floats.

Harbormaster pointed out that the town's insurance carrier has been down and looked at the landing and has never recommended a ladder.

Manny feels that it comes down to whether the insurance provider suggests it.

Richie Garrett suggested having the Harbormaster look into it. He already has.

Peter Thornton – No

Paul Dobbins – No

After discussion, it was decided not to put in a ladder.

Float extensions and dredging were touched on briefly.

It was agreed to discuss the winter float at the next meeting.

## **IX. ADJOURN**

Jay Hallett made a motion to adjourn, William Oliver seconded it. Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Kimmerly Maxfield-Fearon.