

Newburyport Harbor Commission
Harbormaster's Facility
January 10, 2023
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Andrew Casson called a meeting of the Newburyport Harbor Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Andrew Casson, Bob Dow, Jamie Knapp, Adam Armstrong, Ron Thurlow, Jay Lesynski, Chris Charos and George Sass. Justin Dutcher was absent.

2. Minutes

Jamie Knapp moved to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2022, meeting. George Sass seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. Watersheet Application

6 Bayne Lane

Jamie Knapp recused himself from the matter. Bob Dow provided an overview of the process. He said that under the Ordinance, the construction must take into account the constraints of the waterway. It may not intrude into the Federal Channel or the Small Craft Navigation Zone, may not cause congestion or a hazard for the safe navigation of the waterway and may not affect navigation from neighboring properties.

The applicant said the existing dock has less draft than he thought. At times his boat bounces on the muck on the bottom of the river. He currently has a 45-foot boat. He would like the dock to extend into deeper water so that he would be able accommodate a 58-foot boat in the future. The existing dock is not in line with the current. The proposed dock would be parallel to the river.

Andrew Casson said he visited the site. He said Paul Hogg viewed the site from the water and he has no objections to the application.

Ron Thurlow asked if it would be necessary for a kayaker to go around the dock. The applicant said the area under the gangway is mud at low tide.

Bob Dow moved to approve the watersheet application for 6 Bayne Lane. Chris Charos seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

4. Committee Reports

a) Coast Guard City

The Master Chief will propose three dates in February for the presentation of the Cashman Award. The awards for both 2020-2021 and 2022 will be made at the ceremony. The Commission will organize a separate informal gathering with Coasties at the Starboard Galley. The unveiling of the 2020-2021 award will take place in the spring, after the plaque has been installed. The work in the granite support for the plaque is underway and is expected to cost around \$2,500.

b) Marketing

No report.

c) Docks, Moorings and Infrastructure

Paul Hogg will obtain information from the Gloucester Harbormaster's Department on that city's management of its mooring system. He is also working on the 10A permit.

d) Public Safety and Regulations

The CSO signs are to be installed in February. The Commission members would like them to be installed at the marinas in addition to the public access sites. The problems with the link on the Health Department's website and the CSO information appears to have been fixed.

Jamie Knapp said a meeting with the marinas should take place in March or April. Topics for discussion would include kayak safety, CSOs and mooring and dock maintenance. The Commission members discussed the need for inspections.

e) Finance

No report.

4. Harbormaster's Report

No report.

5. General Discussion

- Jamie Knapp will draft a letter to Mayor Reardon stating that the four Commission members whose terms will expire over the next five months would like to be reappointed.
- Andrew Casson said he met with Mayor Reardon to reinforce the role of the Commission as an advisory board that provides support to the Mayor's Office and the Harbormaster.
- The next kayak safety class will take place on February 15.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.