

Newburyport Harbor Commission
Harbormaster's Facility
November 1, 2023
Minutes

1. Call to Order

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

2. Minutes

Bob Dow moved to approve the minutes of the October 11 meeting. George Sass seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. Review of Watersheet and 10A Applications

2 Spofford Street

The applicant has not yet submitted the required information. The item will be on the agenda of the next meeting.

4. Committee Reports

a) Coast Guard City

Jamie Knapp said he requested a meeting with the Mayor concerning the Coast Guard City. The Mayor did not wish to meet, but did express that the Commission should take the lead with regards to the Coast Guard City designation. Members of the Commission will attend a meeting of the Custom House Board to discuss how they might work jointly to support the Coast Guard.

The plaque and granite for the Cashman Award has been ready for installation. At this point, it would be appropriate to install the plaque, which was for 2020-2021, without a ceremony. The Master Chief has not been willing to nominate a recipient for the award for 2022 and 2023. Andrew Casson suggested that the Commission donate the \$1,000 that would have been awarded for these two years to the Coast Guard Foundation. The money is no longer available from the City budget, but the Commission could raise the funds for the donation. The goal would be to re-establish the Cashman Award for 2024.

b) Moorings, Dock and Infrastructure

Paul Hogg said he and Jamie Knapp met on November 17 with representatives from the Army Corp, Senator Markey's office, Senator Moulton's office and the Mayor's office about the relocation of the Federal Channel. The Corp will conduct an internal study to determine if a future study is warranted. The Corp is interested in the impact on commercial boat traffic, while the Commission is concerned with safety. The channel was changed when the buoy was moved, but the charts have not been updated. The Commission would like the change to be acknowledged for safety purposes.

c) Public Safety and Regulations

The fees and fines associated with the 10A permit must be determined before it is submitted to the City Council for approval.

5. Harbormaster's Report

Paul Hogg reported that:

- He completed the mandatory civil rights training that was a requirement of the grant for the new SAFE boat.
- He has been working with the Fire Department on the design of their SAFE boat.
- He donated a one-hour trip to the Newburyport Education Foundation.
- The pump station has been winterized.
- He asked for cleats to be installed on the top of the concrete on the bulkhead to be able to tie up. There had been 40 pilings prior to the work to repair the bulkhead, but only 20 are being put in place as a cost cutting measure. There is a 30 foot gap between some pilings, which results in some docks not being attached to a piling.

6. Adjournment

Andrew Casson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Bob Dow seconded the motion. The motion was approved.