

Newburyport Harbor Commission

City Council Chambers

July 11, 2013

Minutes

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Newburyport Harbor Commission was called to order by Chair Brad Duffin at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Paul Rooney, Brad Duffin, Bob Dow, Andrew Casson, Dan May, Steve Hines, Justin Dutcher and Jamie Knapp. Also in attendance was Harbormaster Paul Hogg.

2. Minutes

Jamie Knapp moved to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2013 meeting as submitted. Paul Rooney seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Harbormaster's Facility

Brad Duffin said bids for design services for the new facility would be solicited on July 16. Paul Dahn and Bob Dow are working with the Planning Office to develop the RFQ. The deadline for submissions is August 21. A walk through is scheduled for August 8. The committee, which is made up of Paul Hogg, Paul Dahn, Bob Dow, Geordie Vining, Andy Port and Peter Lombardi, will review the designs at the end of August and will make a recommendation to the Commission. The Planning Office has estimated the project will cost between \$500,000 and \$750,000. Design fees are estimated at 10% of the total cost and will be paid from retained earnings. A bond might be issued for the remainder of the cost, as was done for the central waterfront docks, but other options will be explored as well.

4. Mid-year Recap

While the focus lately has been on the development of the new Harbormaster's facility, members should give attention to other items of importance to the Commission. Committee assignments will be reviewed at the September meeting and the chair of each subcommittee should be prepared to make a report at the October meeting. Items that should be considered are the rotation of the fishing vessels on the docks, compliance with watersheet applications and a review of the section of the City Ordinance on boats, docks and waterways. Paul Hogg will work with Justin Dutcher to assemble the information that will be included on the new City website.

Members reviewed the task list for the management of the T-docks and embayment that was forwarded by the Waterfront Trust. Bob Dow, Dan May and Jamie Knapp will be members of the subcommittee that will work with the Trust on the items.

5. Harbormaster's Report

Paul Hogg reported that:

July 11, 2013

- he has notified the marinas that his staff would begin checking for waterways permits on July 1. He has sold 1,348 permits and issued 50 citations to date. The City Ordinance allows for a fine of \$100 per day.
- the Fourth of July holiday was a busy one. Six people were rescued from a boat. There were no injuries and it does not appear speed was a factor. Lifeguards rescued three people from a boat that capsized off the beach.
- he would like a green light be installed at the end of the jetty, as the area is confusing at night. Dan May said this should be a task for the Coast Guard and he offered to draft a letter to Mark Cutter.
- the work to repair the bulkhead is scheduled to begin in the fall.
- the new boat is in service and is an asset to the City.
- water samples continue to be taken every Tuesday.
- a simulation is planned for July 23 with the Police and Fire departments in preparation for Yankee Homecoming.
- the Coast Guard Cutter *Pendant* will be in for Yankee Homecoming.
- the paperwork has been completed for reimbursement under the Clean Vessel Act grant program.
- he is working to be appointed as the Shellfish Constable. The State plans to open Joppa for limited clamming.
- the abandoned sailboat was sold at auction for \$15,200. The money will be transferred to the Harbormaster's account from the general fund.

6. General Business

- The George Cashman Award is to be presented at Yankee Homecoming. The recipient has yet to be decided.
- The proceeds of the celebrity bartending event at 10 Center Street totaled approximately \$2,500, not including the income from the silent auction. Brad Duffin said he would like this to be an annual event.
- The Coast Guard Cutter *Eagle* will be in Portsmouth August 2 to 5 and will be open to the public.
- The next meeting of the Harbor Commission is scheduled for September 12.

7. Adjournment

Paul Rooney moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Andrew Casson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.