

**Newburyport Harbor Commission**  
Harbormaster's Facility  
July 1, 2019  
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 Adam Armstrong, Andrew Casson, Bob Dow, Jamie Knapp, Justin Dutcher, Ron Thurlow, Chris Kealey and Jay Lesynski. Harbormaster Paul Hogg was also in attendance.

**2. Minutes**

Chris Kealey moved to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2019, meeting as submitted. Justin Dutcher seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**3. Ordinances**

Chris Kealey suggested that Google Docs be used to share proposed changes to the Muni-code ordinance. The Commission members should review the ordinance for a discussion at the September meeting. The rates should also be reviewed at the September and October meetings. Any increases that are proposed should be submitted to City Council in November in order that they might be in effect before the permit applications are sent out in the spring.

**4. George Cashman Award**

The Yankee Homecoming Committee requested that the George Cashman Award be presented at the same time as the Rybacki Award. The ceremony is scheduled to take place on August 3 on the lawn behind the Custom House. The presentation of the two awards at the same time has been done in the past and helps to increase attendance.

**5. Action Committees**

**A) Dredging**

Adam Armstrong will attend a presentation on the draft report on the feasibility of obtaining a regional dredge. The presentation will take place at the Essex Town Hall on July 12 at 10:00 a.m. The Army Corp. would require that the sand be mapped before any dredging take place. The Plum Island Taxpayers Association would be willing to purchase the drone that would be used for the mapping.

**B) Public Relations/Community Outreach**

Colin Cody videoed the mouth of the river and the tall ship *Nao Santa Maria*. He will go out in a boat with Paul Hogg to get additional footage and will edit the material over the summer. The videos could be used on the Dockwa and Harbor Commission websites.

**C) Coast Guard City**

Ron Thurlow incorporated the comments made at the last meeting into the draft plan to welcome and support Coast Guard members assigned to Station Merrimack River. He forwarded the document to Frank Cousins for his comments.

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The log is missing and must be reinstituted. The donations that were made during the government shut down should be recorded in the log. The Commission members discussed setting up a separate account under the Hines Foundation to keep future donations local rather than sent to Boston. The donations would be used for gift cards to welcome Coast Guard members or support them in times of financial need. The members of the action committee will meet with the Senior Chief.

**6. Harbormaster's Report**

Paul Hogg reported:

- He took part in an exercise at the DPS with the mayor and members of the police and fire departments and ambulance service. The training takes place annually prior to Yankee Homecoming.
- The paving work at Cashman Park has been completed.
- He is preparing for a busy week with the upcoming Fourth of July holiday.
- He received a notification from the Division of Marine Fisheries that shellfish beds are shut down due to a red tide.
- He received his reappointed for the next three years.
- He made sure that City Council has the most recent version of the proposed floating home ordinance.
- On June 19, the booms were deployed due to a small spill of diesel fuel from an unknown source underneath the bulkhead.
- The use of the Dockwa online reservation system is proving to be very successful.
- The tuna tournament will take place on August 22.
- School of pogies have been running along the beach, which helps to attract whales.

**7. Other Business**

Jamie Knapp will work on posting an advertisement for the open position on the Commission.

**8. Adjournment**

Bob Dow moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Jamie Knapp seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The next meeting of the Harbor Commission will take place on Wednesday, September 4.