

Newburyport Harbor Commission
City Hall Auditorium
September 3, 2015
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Brad Duffin called a meeting of the Newburyport Harbor Commission to order at 7:03 p.m. In attendance were Brad Duffin, Bob Dow, Chris Kealey, Jamie Knapp and Andrew Casson. Harbormaster Paul Hogg was also in attendance.

2. Minutes

Bob Dow moved to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2015 meeting as submitted. Jamie Knapp seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. Old Business

The July 9 meeting began at 7:00 p.m. It had been improperly posted as beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Andrew Casson moved to reaffirm the vote to refer to the Regulations, Safety and Moorings Committee a request to install three cameras on the Coast Guard Auxiliary building. Bob Dow seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Andrew Casson moved to reaffirm the vote to nominate Travis Capps for the 2015 Cashman Award. Bob Dow seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Andrew Casson moved to reaffirm the vote to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Bob Dow seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

4. New Business

Brad Duffin, Andrew Casson and Paul Hogg attended a meeting with Mayor Holaday, one of the Public Settlers and the chair, vice chair and attorney of the Waterfront Trust. The Trustees wish to enter into a revenue-sharing agreement for the docks. The operation of the day-to-day activities on the waterfront would continue to be under the direction of the Harbormaster and Harbor Commission. Brad Duffin said no decisions were made at the meeting but he agreed in the spirit of cooperation to appoint two members of the Harbor Commission to a subcommittee to continue the conversation with two Trustees. Bob Dow and Andrew Casson agreed to serve on the subcommittee.

Mayor Holaday asked about the Harbor Commission's long-term strategy for capital improvements. Jamie Knapp will prepare a plan for at least the next five years for review at the next meeting.

5. Harbormaster's Report

Paul Hogg reported:

- his staff will work extra hours during the upcoming Riverfront Music Festival. Hours will be reduced after Labor Day. Brad Duffin asked that Cashman Park be fully staffed as long as the weather is good.
- he has asked that email addresses be included on permit applications in order to build up a data base.
- there has been much construction activity at the Whittier Bridge. The channel was shut down at times while work was being done overhead.
- the Salisbury Harbormaster is conducting weekend patrols in the no-wake zone. Brad Duffin said a consequence of the lower speeds is that fishing boats have been gathering in the mouth of the river, blocking the channel and making passage difficult for larger boats. Mr. Hogg said this has been an ongoing problem because the fishing is good in that location. He pointed out the speed is determined by the law, whether or not no wake buoys are present.
- the construction of the new fish pier at Cashman Park was done well. While the pump is new, its replacement should be a part of the ten-year plan.
- the clamming permit system is working well.
- the staff continues to train with the dive team.
- the work on the jetty should be completed in October or November. He has not yet heard of any plans for the rough bar light.

6. Subcommittee Reports

Budget and Finance Committee

The City Council unanimously approved a \$1.08 million bond authorization for the Harbormasters/Transient Boaters Facility.

Regulations, Safety and Moorings

The subcommittee will present at the October meeting its recommendation on the request to install three cameras at the Coast Guard Auxiliary building.

Coast Guard City Liaison and Community Outreach Committee

No report.

7. Harbormaster's/Transient Boaters' Facility Financing

Andrew Casson attended a meeting of the Energy Advisory Committee with Geordie Vining. While the committee members said they understand the reasoning behind the choice to use a thin film solar roof, they continued to withhold their support of the use of a Green Community grant for that purpose.

8. Adjournment

Jamie Knapp moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Chris Kealey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.