

Newburyport Harbor Commission
Minutes – January 13, 2011

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Newburyport Harbor Commission was called to order by Chairman Brad Duffin at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Neil Bleicken, Andrew Casson, Bob Dow, Brad Duffin, Steve Hines, Jamie Knapp, Dave Russell, Paul Rooney and Paul Dahn.

2. Parking Plan

City Counselor Bob Cronin said the parking agreement between the city and the NRA might change the way the docks are stored. Also a super parking sticker might be issued that would include Plum Island and might impact the Harbor Commission's revenue. Bob Dow asked how the city was able to take funds from the Harbor Commission under the enterprise system. Bob Cronin encouraged the Commissioners to invite Bill Squillace to attend a meeting to explain how this was done.

3. Minutes

The approval of the minutes of the December 9, 2010 meeting was deferred.

4. Transient Boaters Facility

Steve Hines said he has not had time to work on the project and will try to have a report for next month.

5. Coast Guard Cities Application

Neil Bleicken distributed a draft letter that would be sent from Donna Holaday to Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr. and a list of potential individuals that could be asked to support the application. Paul Rooney suggested that more emphasis be placed on the revenue cutter service. He said retired members of the Coast Guard should be contacted. The committee will meet again before the next meeting.

6. Meeting with Marina Owners

Jamie Knapp, Andrew Casson and Paul Hogg will work on setting up a meeting with the marina owners and operators for the end of February.

7. Harbormaster's Report

Paul Hogg was not able to attend the meeting. Andrew Casson presented the Harbormaster's report in his absence. He said the Harbormaster now has access to boating registrations on line. Paul Rooney said that calls to the office to check on registrations should be done over secure lines.

Paul Hogg is working on excise tax bills, but the Munis system is being updated and the bills would not be sent out until the end of March. Brad Duffin said this should be done sooner as the Harbormasters Department is in need of the revenue and must determine if moorings are to become available to those on the waiting list.

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Paul Hogg is working with the Mayor to obtain a grant under the National Green Diesel Assistance Program. The grant would be used to reduce toxic emissions from the *Prince of Whales*. The City, acting as the facilitator, would receive a portion of the grant. Brad Duffin said the grant writer had prepared a letter stating the Harbor Commission supports the application. As the group had not discussed the issue, the letter was changed to indicate the he, as chair, is in support.

A budget quote has been received for \$122,585 for four 40' x 10' docks, which includes fendering and strongarms. The package will have to be put out to bid. Bob Dow will have specs written and will find out how winter storage would be handled and how large of a boat the docks could hold.

Paul Hogg received a waterways license request from Kairos Environmental for the installation and maintenance of sheet pilings at the American Yacht Club. A watershed application must be filed.

8. General Discussion

Paul Dahn said a local vendor would match the quote received for the Coast Guard City website.

Brad Duffin asked Andrew Casson to inform Paul Hogg that he should speak with Jim Ford, owner of the *Lisa Ann*, which is being tied up to the pilings at the transportation dock and to invite Bill Squillace to come to an upcoming meeting. He asked Jamie Knapp to contact the NRA about dock storage and parking for the Harbormaster and fisherman at the fish pier. Finally he asked Commission members to consider when an appropriate time would be to elect a new chair.

9. Adjournment

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