

Newburyport Harbor Commission
Harbormaster's Facility
September 4, 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, Ron Thurlow and Chris Kealey. Justin Dutcher and Jay Lesynski were absent. Harbormaster Paul Hogg was also in attendance.

2. Minutes

Jamie Knapp moved to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2019, meeting as submitted. Bob Dow seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. Ordinances

Google Docs will be used to share proposed changes to the Muni-code ordinance but the link has not yet been set up. The discussion was tabled until the November meeting, which will be dedicated to the topic. Fees will also be discussed at that time. Jamie Knapp will circulate a list of the fees that are charged in Portsmouth.

4. George Cashman Award

The George Cashman Award was to be presented during Yankee Homecoming but most of the Commission members were out of town at that time. It was decided it would be preferable to make the presentation in September or October. Andrew Casson will ask Joe Leone about dates the upstairs at the Black Cow might be available. The Mayor and City Councilors will be invited.

5. Action Committees

A) Dredging

Adam Armstrong attended a presentation by the Woods Hole Group on the feasibility of a regional dredge. He reported the meeting was well attended but it appears the acquisition would not be viable. The Commission members will contact legislators about dredging the mouth of the river because it is a public safety issue. Working together with the Salisbury Harbor Commission could increase the effectiveness of the effort.

B) Public Relations/Community Outreach

During the fall semester, Colin Cody will compile the material he collected over the summer and produce several 3.5 minute videos for use on the Dockwa or Harbor Commission's websites.

C) Coast Guard City

Ron Thurlow forwarded the draft plan to welcome and support Coast Guard members assigned to Station Merrimack River to Frank Cousins but has not yet received his comments. Jamie Knapp will contact Dan May about the whereabouts of the log and a new

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one will be started if it cannot be found. The possibility of setting up an account through the Hines Foundation is being investigated. The account would keep future donations local rather than being sent to Boston. The donations would be used for gift cards to welcome Coast Guard members or to support them in times of financial need.

6. Harbormaster's Report

Paul Hogg reported:

- The tall ship *Gundalow* will be docked at the boardwalk between September 4 and 10.
- Five people were rescued from the water after a boating accident in the mouth of the river.
- He will attend a search and rescue training with the Coast Guard on September 16.
- He is preparing with the Coast Guard and marinas for the possibility of severe weather as a hurricane moves up the coast. The shark and tuna tournament was postponed one week due to the storm.
- The lifeguards are done for the season.
- He set up an overnight patrol after some kids boarded a boat on the docks in the middle of the night.

7. Other Business

Jamie Knapp will post an advertisement for the open position on the Commission. George Sass has submitted a letter of interest.

8. Adjournment

Jamie Knapp moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Bob Dow seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The next meeting of the Harbor Commission will take place on Wednesday, October 2.