

ROCKPORT HARBOR COMMITTEE

Rockport Marine

May 13, 2010

5:00 PM

MINUTES

Chairman Taylor Allen
Robert Tassi
Mario Turi
Harbormaster Abbie Leonard
Robert Duke

Joel Powers
Bruce Dodge
Select Person Sani Fogel
Doreen Duke

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Allen opened the meeting at 5: 07 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF APRIL 13, 2010 MINUTES

The minutes of April 13, 2010 will be amended to read “Ms. Leonard will purchase radar for the Harbormaster’s Boat after July 1, 2010.”

Mr. Tassi motioned to approve the minutes of April 13, 2010 as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powers and passed 3-0-2 with Mr. Allen and Dr. Turi abstaining.

2. QUEENIE’S WEENIES – LUNCH WAGON AT MARINE PARK

Mrs. Duke, owner of Queenie’s Weenies, did not receive approval for a Peddler’s Permit at the May 10, 2010 Select Board meeting. The matter was tabled by the Select Board who will next meet on May 24th. Mrs. Duke will request a two (2) year permit to locate a lunch wagon at Marine Park. The portable lunch wagon will be located between the two (2) kilns near the birch trees.

Queenie’s Weenies paid a \$75 Peddler’s Permit fee for 2009. Mrs. Duke will be issued a Seasonal Peddler’s Fee beginning this season. The Select Board will set fees for Marine Park at the next Board meeting upon reviewing the Harbor Committee recommendations. The Harbor Committee is in favor of allowing Mrs. Duke to locate a lunch wagon at Marine Park.

3. MARINE PARK RENTAL FEE DISCUSSION

The Harbormaster recommends Marine Park be distinguished from other Town parks that cannot hold large events and allow more people on the site. An event expecting 50 or more attendees will need an off-site parking plan. Town parks are not closed to other visitors during an event.

There will not be any rate distinction for non-profit entities using Marine Park. The Harbor Committee suggested charging a fee for using available facilities at Marine Park instead of requiring porta potties.

The Harbor Committee discussed the subject of fees at length. The Committee recommends increasing the Marine Park fees from \$300 to \$350 for residents and from \$500 to \$550 for non-residents. The use of utilities (power, water, bathroom, clean-up) will increase from \$20 to \$75 per day.

The Harbormaster will have the discretion who to allow and where the person will be located at Marine Park.

The Committee recommends a fee of \$100 per month for seasonal vendors. There is a \$1.50 per day license fee for peddlers which is separate from the Vendor Harbor Fee.

4. FISHERMAN'S REQUEST FOR MOORING EXTENSION

A mooring extension contract has been prepared for the fisherman who is in arrears with his mooring fees. The Harbormaster has been unsuccessful in contacting the fisherman for his signature. The matter will be forwarded to the Town Manager if the contract remains unsigned.

5. WINTER STORAGE FEES

The Harbor Committee will recommend the Select Board set the fee for winter boat storage at \$1 per square foot of the vessel. It was the Committee's opinion a square foot charge was more equitable than a linear foot charge. A tri-maran and a catamaran will be measured the same way as any vessel. The fee schedule will be revisited at a later date

6. "LYNX" REQUEST TO WAIVE DOCKAGE FEES

The Harbormaster received correspondence from Jeffrey Woods, Director of Operations, for the Lynx Educational Foundation requesting free berthing for the SV Lynx on the Town floats from June 4th until June 7th. The Foundation further requesting permission to operate educational programs on June 4th and 5th. Set donations would be sought for dockside tours and Adventure Sails with the proceeds supporting the Lynx educational programs.

The Harbor Committee considered: the competition this endeavor would create with local sailing vessels and the obligation to community taxpayers of Rockport who will be denied the ability to pull along the dock while the Lynx is here and who would be required to pay normal fees.

Mr. Tassi motioned to recommend the Harbormaster recommend denying the SV Lynx request. The vessel would be welcomed with a new fee schedule and regulations for using the dock. The motion was seconded by Dr. Turi and passed 4-0-1 with Mr. Allen abstaining.

Mr. Allen offered the use of a mooring for the Lynx.

Ms. Leonard will establish a fee for operating off a public dock

7. DISCUSS BILLING DATE CHANGE

Ms. Leonard spoke with the Town Clerk and Town Manager with regards to changing the date the Harbor fees are due. Mrs. Greenlaw suggested changing the date but not setting a specific date.

The Committee discussed: amnesty for the late fees; interest fees; doubling the fees; losing the rights for a mooring; and capping the fees at \$50 per month.

Mr. Tassi motioned to accept the proposed late fee of \$50.00 per month. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dodge and passed unanimously. Ms. Fogel will advise the Town Manager that \$50 is the proposed change in the ordinance.

Mr. Allen motioned to set the mooring fee deadline on or about May 1st with a late fee of \$50 per month for two (2) months. The Harbormaster will have the discretion, upon expiration, of extending the deadline. The motion was seconded by Dr. Turi and passed unanimously.

8. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT

- a. Ms. Leonard thanked Mr. Tassi for his 'trained expertise' in painting the train and presented a Harbor t-shirt to him

The Harbormaster expressed her appreciation to Mr. Allen for his assistance in "hauling out" the Harbormaster's boat. Mr. Allen offered the use of a pressure washer to be used on the Harbormaster's boat in the fall. Ms. Leonard will bleach the bottom of the vessel to eliminate the barnacles.

- b. The Harbormaster will meet with the Town Manager and Public Works Director to review the maintenance of the Marine Park and surrounding grounds. The area was previously maintained by Public Works. The Eagle Scout site established in 2009 is not maintained. Ms. Leonard recommends planting wild flowers.
- c. Ms. Leonard stated a person is possibly interested in purchasing the Porter Property or 19 Sea Street with the intent of parking a 145' power boat. The vessel draws 8' with a 24' beam. The person would also like a float in front of the house.

The boat could easily anchor in the deep harbor. Mr. Allen expressed his concerns with the possibility of displacing moorings for other users of the Harbor. The Committee discussed the "safety" of having this vessel moored in the inner harbor.

The proposal would need to be placed before the Harbor Committee and the Planning Board.

- d. The Harbormaster, with assistance from Tom Ford, will be applying for a Small Harbor

Grant (Ship Grant) to purchase 8' float sections and pilings. The Town has approximately \$8,000 of the estimated \$60,000 cost. The project must be "shovel ready" by August 1st when the application is due.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Harbor Committee meeting will be held on June 10th 5:00 at the Harbormaster's office.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melody V. Sainio
Recording Secretary