

ROCKPORT HARBOR COMMITTEE

Rockport Town Office

September 30, 2010

5:00 PM

MINUTES

Chairman Robert Tassi
Joel Powers
Sharilyn Morton
Harbormaster Abbie Leonard
Town Manager Robert Peabody

Doug Cole
Taylor Allen
Mario Turi
Sani Fogel

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a. Chairman Tassi opened the meeting at 5:07 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Dr. Cole questioned the out-come of the dye test for pollution at Goodie's Beach. Mr. Peabody said it "appears" the non-source pollution at the Harbor could possibly be flowing from Pleasant Street and Route 1. The pollution has not been caused by the Town's sewer system. Evidence of deer, geese and two (2) dog cages were found in the vicinity of the stream. Public Works Director Steve Beveridge will contact the owner of the cages.
- b. Mr. Allen motioned and Dr. Turi seconded to accept the minutes of August 12, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

2. DISCUSSION OF UPDATED ELECTRICAL POWER DISTRIBUTION

The Harbormaster said three (3) electrical pedestals will be installed to provide more reliable electricity to sailing vessels docked at Marine Park. The original agreement between the Town of Rockport and vessel owners is silent for providing electricity. Mr. Allen pointed out the Town is charging rent for docking a vessel but is not supplying enough electricity for that vessel.

The electrical conduit is breaking due to the location of the current electrical lines and shifting of seawall. The estimated cost of repair submitted by Kuurz Electric was higher than expected. An application has been made for a substantial grant to correct the entire electrical issue.

3. HARBOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF FLOATS, LANDING & RAMP AT MARINE PARK – Tom Ford

Planner Tom Ford and Harbormaster Abbie Leonard submitted a grant application for four (4) 8' x 20' floats, one (1) 4' x 40' ramp and one (1) 6' x 16' landing.

The Town of Rockport has been awarded a Grant in the amount of \$43,900. Matching funds from the Town of Rockport will be approximately \$8,500. The Harbor Committee has the authority to approve the floats. The project will be put out to bid.

Mrs. Morton motioned to approve the application to implement the grant and install four (4) floats along the bulkhead adjacent to Goose River. The motion was seconded by Dr. Turi and passed unanimously. The MDOT will review the specs for this project.

3. RECONSIDERATION OF BOAT STORAGE FEES– John Priestley

Mr. Priestley expressed his concern regarding the winter storage fee increase for storing his catamaran on Town property. The previous fee was \$10 per foot of length while the new fee is \$1 times length times beam of the vessel. His storage fee would increase from \$400 to \$1,120. The fee for some smaller vessels would decrease. Mr. Priestley presented a different formula to be used for establishing fees. This formula would increase fees approximately 33% per vessel in the Harbor.

It was the intent of the Select Board to raise Harbor revenue. The Harbormaster did a fee comparison of other towns. Three (3) smaller boats could be stored in the same area as the catamaran. Mr. Allen pointed out Rockport Marine charges \$3 per square foot which includes the use of equipment but not labor. The Town charges \$1 per square foot and boat owners make their own arrangements for moving the vessels. Mr. Powers agrees with charging a fee for the area used. Mr. Priestley will not pursue this matter at this time but is willing to discuss if further in the future.

A discussion of fees will be placed on the next agenda.

3. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT

- a. Ms. Leonard reported the new floats will not be completed this fall but should be installed in the spring.
- b. Danny Dodge's lobster boat was found to be leaking oil into the Harbor. (One cup of oil will put sheen on an area the size of a football field.) Ms. Leonard contacted Public Works Director Steve Beverage and Fire Chief Bruce Woodard for assistance with this matter.

Mr. Woodward, as the Town's Safety Person, contacted the DEP regarding the oil spill. The DEP said the oil is not retrievable. Mr. Dodge put a material in the bilge to soak up the excess oil.

- c. The Harbormaster reported 'Legacy Rockport' was a successful event. Forty pounds of hamburg and 100 hotdogs were grilled by the Town Manager.
- d. Frank Dodge has paid the principle of his mooring fees. He will continue to pay towards the overdue late fees.
- e. Ms. Leonard said a portion of the sea wall needs to be rebuilt. This matter will be placed on the next agenda. Review of marine and storage fees will also be included on that agenda.

f. The Harbormaster will apply for a pump-out grant in the spring.

4. NEXT MEETING

The next Harbor Committee meeting will be held on October 28th at 5:15 p.m. at the Rockport Town Office.

5. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melody V. Sainio
Recording Secretary