

ROCKPORT HARBOR COMMITTEE

Rockport Marine

June 24, 2010

5:00 PM

MINUTES

Vice-chairman Robert Tassi
Doug Cole
Mario Turi
Town Manager Robert Peabody

Joel Powers
Sharilyn Morton
Select Person Sani Fogel
Harbormaster Abbie Leonard

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- a. Vice-chairman Tassi opened the meeting at 5:12 p.m.
- b. Mrs. Morton motioned to approve the minutes of May 13, 2010. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powers and passed 4-0.

1. DISCUSS BILLING DATE CHANGE

A discussion was held on extending the mooring billing date from March 31st to April 31st to allow the fishermen time to begin the fishing season. Eliminating the current late fee was also considered.

The mooring billing date will remain March 31st. The Harbormaster will research establishing a \$50 late fee per month for April, May and June. The mooring could then be removed after June if the fees are not paid by the mooring holder.

8. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT

- a. Ms. Leonard reported that "Pop the Cork," a fund raiser held by Cellar Door Winery, was a success with the exception of some parking issues. Tents were appropriately placed and were used the following day for a wedding.
- b. Mrs. Fogel reported on Legacy Rockport, a philanthropic organization that will strive to raise funds for Town projects not covered by municipal taxes. A private board of trustees consisting of Richard Remsen, David Jackson, Chris Shrum (director/fund raiser), Sani Fogel (Select Person), Lynda Clancy and Larry Lehman, will determine where funds are to be spent. Legacy Rockport has not yet received 501c3 status. The Trustees have established by-laws and will apply for any available grants.

A cook-out at the Harbor will be held on August 15th to introduce Legacy Rockport. Pamphlets will be handed out at that time. Local vendors will be promoted. Richard Remsen designed the letterhead with a maritime compass.

- c. A SHIP (Small Harbor Improvement) Grant focusing on transient boating for the public will be applied for by the Town. The grant would cover 2 courtesy dinghies and transient tie-offs. Funds held by the Town could be used as a match.

Mr. Peabody said the Town will be applying for a boating infrastructure grant.

- d. Underground wiring has broken at Marine Park and the conduit is not working properly. New poles and better lighting will be installed.
- e. The Committee previously discussed expanding and paving the commercial fishermen's parking area near Rockport Marine. Water run-off could be controlled easier on pavement. The area would be "striped" to promote better parking.
- f. The Town will apply for a grant which would cover a pump-out station.
- g. The Harbormaster reported the "Lynx" entered Rockport Harbor with nice fanfare. The "Lynx" did not receive many visitors on Saturday and left earlier than scheduled on Sunday leaving the fee unpaid and several visitors (including youngsters dressed as pirates) unable to visit the vessel.

Captain Tassi and his crew were courteous and invited all aboard the "Timberwind" to experience being on a sailing vessel. The Harbormaster, Captain Tassi and others voiced their concerns and opinions to the owners of the "Lynx." The fee has since been paid.

- h. The Harbormaster and Committee discussed: mooring owners allowing others to use their mooring; the length of time a mooring could be owned but not used; the mooring waiting list (currently 5 to 6 years long); and abandoned mooring sites in the harbor. Mooring owners are allowed to have an unused mooring with approval of the Harbormaster for a limited amount of time.
- i. Mrs. Fogel received a complaint of a lobsterman leaving an unattended boat between the Rockport Boat Club float and the commercial fishermen's float the previous weekend. The Harbormaster will stencil "No Tie Up" on the side of the float. A summons will be issued in the future to any boat owner leaving an unattended vessel in this area.

Boats are allowed to tie up to the commercial float for one-half hour.
- j. Rockport currently has resident and non-resident moorings. The Army Corps of Engineers will not work on a marine project when a Municipality differentiates between Mooring residents and non-residents owners.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Mr. Tassi said the "Brenda Lee is leaving the harbor and asked if the "Mimosa" could be moved to that location. The Harbormaster has needed to move the "Brenda Lee", on occasion, so the "Timberwind" can leave the harbor.
- b. Election of Chairman and Vice-chairman will be placed on the next agenda.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next Harbor Committee meeting will be held on July 15th at 5:00 at the Harbormaster's Building weather permitting.

11. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melody V. Sainio
Recording Secretary