

ROCKPORT HARBOR COMMITTEE

Rockport Town Office

April 19, 2012

5:15 PM

MINUTES

Chairman Robert Tassi
Joel Powers
Patrick Annis
Harbormaster Abbie Leonard
James Lea (5:47 pm)

Taylor Allen
Mario Turi
Sharilyn Morton
Select Person Sani Fogel

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:19 p.m. by Chairman Tassi.

1. Chess Board Placement at Marine Park – Jim Lea

- a. Mr. Lea proposes to construct a concrete pad (approximately 10' x 10') in Marine Park that would be painted to represent a chessboard. The concrete pad would be flush with the ground. The Harbor Committee discussed installing a granite pedestal style table versus the concrete pad since a table could also be used for other purposes.
- b. Moveable plastic game pieces for the chess board would average 18" in height and be filled with sand or gravel. The game pieces would be stored in a locked box with a coded lock and available for anyone to use on a sign-out basis.
- c. Mr. Lea offered to purchase the chess pieces. The approximate cost to purchase the game pieces is \$325. Volunteers will maintain the chess board and pieces. Public Works Director Steve Beveridge does not anticipate the chess set to be a large expense to the Town.
- d. Mr. Lea noted that 14 people, to date, are interested in establishing a chess club.
- e. The Harbormaster recommended the chess board pad be located either near the benches on the front lawn in front of the Harbormaster's Building or between the Christmas tree and where the docks are stored during the winter.
- f. Dr. Turi motioned to suggest to the Town a chess board up to 10' and chess pieces be installed at Marine Park. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morton and passed 4-0.

2. Discussion of Marine Park Fees

- a. Susan Dates, Rental Agent for the Rockport Opera House, recommended reviewing fees for the use of Marine Park. She provided a comparison study of fees charged in neighboring towns.

- b. The current fee to rent Marine Park is \$400. Persons wishing to marry, but not having a reception at the Harbor, are charged the full fee. The people are opting not to pay or have the wedding at Marine Park.
- c. Mrs. Dates proposes to change the fee for a gathering of 25 or more persons to \$50 for residents and \$75 for non-residents to use Marine Park for up to two (2) hours. This fee change does not include setup, utilities or Town employee assistance. Off-site parking spaces are needed for groups of 50 or more.

A gathering of 20 or fewer persons does not require a permit or fee.
- d. Marine Park will remain open to other visitors during any event.
- e. Mrs. Morton motioned to allow Marine Park to be used for a special event for up to two (2) hours, as per Sue Dates' request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powers and passed 4-0.

3. New SHIP Grant Ideas

- a. The Committee discussed applying for a grant to pave the northerly section of Marine Park for boat storage or for additional lighting at Marine Park.

Mrs. Morton motioned to have the Harbormaster proceed with applying for the grant to be used for lighting at the Harbor. The motion was seconded by Dr. Turi and passed 4-0.

4. Harbormaster's Report

- a. The Harbormaster reported the electrician has started the electrical work at Marine Park. The trench for the pump-out station is open and waiting for the installer who is scheduled to be on-site April 26th.
- b. Ms. Leonard varnished the benches during the winter months in preparation for the 2012 summer season.
- c. Ms. Leonard noted the pilings have been driven in the Goose River and the new docks are completed. The MDOT offered a 4th float in the matching grant. The float will be delivered next week.
- d. The Town of Rockport will purchase a dinghy for the Harbor. The dinghy will be available in 30 minutes increments at a fee for public use. The dinghy could be used as a tender and will be left in an accessible location.
- f. There are approximately 20 persons on the mooring waiting list. Some current mooring owners on the list want a better location closer to shore. Some applicants on the list do not yet have boats and will continue paying \$10 per year to remain on the waiting list.

- g. The Harbormaster reported some moorings not being used. Ten moorings are available to be reissued.
- h. Two Harbor Marine constructed a new barge, 50' in length that will be used for marine contracting.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Mr. Turi motioned to approve the minutes of March 29, 2012. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Morton. and passed unanimously.

6. NEXT MEETING

The next Harbor Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2012 at 5:15 p.m. at the Rockport Town Office.

7. ADJOURN

Mr. Powers motioned to adjourn the Harbor Committee meeting at 6:28p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Allen and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Melody V. Sainio
Recording Secretary