

CAMDEN HARBOR COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF APRIL 1, 2010 MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Gene McKeever, Ben Ellison, Ray Williamson, Richard Stetson, Ben Cashen, Ken Kooyenga, Harbormaster Steve Pixley, Sandy Welte (8:40 a.m.).

NON-MEMBERS: Howard Gallagher.

1. NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Howard Gallagher approached the committee concerning his non-resident rate for his harbor fees. Howard is a resident of Northport; however, he has a business in Camden. He explained to the committee that he has moved his business to Bay View Street and is renting the space and the lease agreement specifies that he is responsible for the real estate taxes on the building. After discussion on this request the committee advised Howard to pay the non-resident rate and they would discuss this with the Town Manager and will let him know of the decision.

Later in the meeting more discussion was made on this subject. Many points were made on why this would not be a good idea to grant this request due to the fact that even though it is part of the lease agreement between the two parties, that the real estate owner is the person legally responsible for the taxes as he/she is the owner of record. Ray Williamson presented a good point in the question of if the real estate owner was to apply for a permit site in the harbor and the person who is renting the building with the leasing stating that they are responsible for the taxes than does that mean the actual real estate owner can not have a real estate taxpayer rate. The taxpayer rate is not intended to be recognized or to be involved with lease agreements. The committee will look into this more.

2. APPROVAL OF MARCH 4TH MINUTES:

Ben Ellison motioned to accept minutes as written. **Ray Williamson seconded motion. Passed 5-0.**

3. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:

Harbormaster Pixley updated the committee on the safety flaps for the docks that had been asked to be done for safety issues. The committee would like Pixley to have this done. Pixley also updated the committee of the progress of the new harbor program and being able to have information more available to him than before.

4. MASTER PLAN FOR STEAM BOAT LANDING PARKING:

Ben Ellison reported to the committee that he went before the Parking Committee and got some really good feedback from them. They gave the committee the go ahead to continue on with their plans. They did tell Ben that where the plans were for the boat trailers to park cannot be done and Ben agreed with them. Chairman McKeever also told the committee that the planned parking in the corner by Wayfarer cannot be done per Town Manager Roberta Smith. The committee discussed several State grants that are out there and spoke of possibly forming a sub-committee to research grants available. Ray Williamson suggested possibly hiring someone to research grants available for the committee as it is a very time consuming task for a volunteer member to take on. Chairman McKeever said he would like to see the committee work as a whole on grant ideas, etc. as each member has great ideas to add. He would like to do this first before having a sub-committee and the members agreed. The committee scheduled a **special meeting** on April 15th to discuss grant possibilities only.

Ben Ellison made a motion: To improve access to the public launching ramp, the Harbor Committee would like the Select Board to add as many as possible of the attached Steamboat Landing Road parking improvements to the upcoming drainage pipe project in that area. The improvements have been reviewed and approved by the Parking Committee, and the Harbor Committee is amenable to the use of Harbor Reserve funds to cover the added cost to the project.

Title: **Improvements to Steamboat Landing Road parking**

Plan notes on drawing

1. Cut back evergreen bushes currently growing into the right-of-way and encroaching on the existing parking spaces as much as reasonable
2. Cut back branches currently growing in the right-of-way and encroaching on the existing parking.
3. Run macadam or gravel to edge of right-of-way so that existing parking encroaches less on usable roadway.
4. Run macadam or gravel to edge of right-of-way as possible and thus create added parking.
5. When possible move utility poles away from road to the edge of the right-of-way.
6. Cut back bank and run macadam or gravel to edge of right-of-way so existing short term parking encroaches less on launching ramp use.

Richard Stetson seconded motion. Passed 5-0.

5. NAMES ON PERMITS:

Will discuss at next meeting.

6. FISHERMEN PARKING:

Ben Ellison suggested to the Parking Committee to do a survey with the fishermen who have parking permits as to their usage of their spaces. He thought the Parking Committee seemed interested, as if the amount of usage was minimal it would free up a couple of additional parking spaces for the public and

that they were going to put it on an agenda for discussion. He said he will follow up with them to see if this in fact what they planned to do and if so, what the outcome is.

7. GRANT POSSIBILITIES:

Was addressed in Item #4.

In closing of the meeting Chairman McKeever thanked the committee for all their work and time given to the committee and that he truly felt that this committee worked very well together and brought a lot to the table.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m. with a **“special meeting”** being scheduled for **April 15th at 7:30 a.m. in the Washington Street Conference Room**. The regular **“monthly meeting”** will **on May 6th at 7:30 a.m. in the Washington Street Conference Room**.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene Libby
Harbor Clerk