

CAMDEN HARBOR COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2013 MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Gene McKeever, Ben Cashen, Steve Gold, Richard Stetson (7:40 a.m.), and Harbormaster Steve Pixley.

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Willard Wight, Sam Appleton, Dan Bannon & Barney Baker of Baker Design Consultants.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

1. NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Steve Gold thanked Willard Wight for his work on the draft rewrite of the harbor section of the comprehensive plan. Steve was concerned about the town owning the Camden Yacht Club and this being excluded from the plan and feels it should be mentioned. Some discussion on the history of the Yacht Club lease with the town.

2. APPROVAL OF MARCH 14TH MINUTES:

Ben Cashen motioned to accept minutes as written. Richard Stetson seconded motion. Passed 4-0.

3. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:

Harbormaster Pixley reported that he had fixed the broken wharf from the dredging near the fishermen float area. He has added new lighting by the harbormaster's office. He is basically, making the preparations for the season to begin. He is trying to be more cost efficient with projects needed to be done due to money available in the reserves being low.

4. HOIST AT HARBOR:

Steve Gold told the committee that he was hesitant to provide a hoist for a small group of commercial users at the expense of Camden taxpayers. He also, felt that there are liability issues that are of concern. Chairman McKeever personally feels that the hoist is needed due to the character of the harbor and the fishermen being a part of the harbor culture and working waterfront. Steve Gold questioned why a group of the fishermen does not buy the hoist. Chairman McKeever said the hoist is very costly and feels that usage would be available to a variety of harbor usage. Steve Gold would be in favor of maintaining working waterfront and possible increase for user fees for fishermen. Harbormaster Pixley said it is basically, a mute subject at this point due funds not being available without a grant at this time.

5. **SAM APPLETON REQUEST FOR RIPARIAN INNER HARBOR FLOAT:**

Sam Appleton requested to be assigned the inner harbor float #2A-F(W), currently held by Peter Blake that would be available to the property he has recently purchased from Peter Blake. At this time Peter is assigned this float due to previously owning the waterfront property, however, he has plans to sell his boat and at some point release this site. Sam is currently on the inner harbor float waiting list and would like to have this float assigned to him when it is available. The committee does not have an issue with this being done and Harbormaster Pixley instructed him to address a letter of request of this site and due to being recently purchasing the property from Peter, making him a waterfront property owner, he would be eligible to be ahead of other non-waterfront property owners on the waiting list. ***Richard Stetson motioned to accept the request of Sam Appleton to be assigned the Inner Harbor Float #2A-F(W) at the time of release from Peter Blake. Ben Cashen seconded motion. Passed 4-0.***

6. **TOWN DREDGE UPDATE:**

Harbormaster Pixley said the “dredge” fund is \$9,000 in the red due to the DEP requirements placed on the dredging project. He said the cemetery will be in the process of being finished from the dumping of the dredge materials. The completion will be based on the satisfaction of the Cemetery Association.

7. **UPDATE ON PURCHASE OF WAYFARER FLOATS:**

Harbormaster Pixley said due to the lack of funding the purchase of the floats is not possible.

8. **UPDATE OF DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN:**

Chairman McKeever introduced Dan Bannon and Barney Baker from Baker Design Consultants who will be working with the architect firm T-Y-Lin International on the River Walk and Public Landing Project design. Baker Design specializes in waterfront design which will be their main focus of this project and why they were selected to work with the architects. Chairman McKeever and Baker Design Consultants urges the committee members to attend the next meeting concerning the project design on April 22nd @ 6:30 p.m. at the Celebration of Life Church located in the Knox Mill Complex to be involved with suggestions and ideas. Dan Bannon said this meeting is one of the main ways for them to gather information from the public on their ideas and input. Some discussion was made on the placement of the harbormaster’s office staying in the current area for enforcement and visibility reasons. Discussion on possible use of the Chamber of Commerce building, which is owned by the Town, now that the chamber has merged with Rockland and will not have a need for the office space. The possible usages that were discussed were a greeting area and marine museum.

9. **UPDATE OF WORKING GROUP AND ORDINANCE REVIEW COMMITTEE:**

The work group had its last meeting in March. The ordinance review committee continues to meet and are making progress and doing a great job in taking their time and really discussing changes before they are considered.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m. **The next meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2013 at 7:30 a.m. in the Washington Street Conference Room.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene Libby
Harbor Clerk