

CAMDEN HARBOR COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2013 MEETING

MEMBER PRESENT: Chairman Gene McKeever, Ben Ellison, Sandy Welte, Ray Williamson, Steve Gold, Richard Stetson, Harbormaster Steve Pixley, and Select Board Member Jim Heard.

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Willard Wight, Arthur Andrews, Bob Ogier, Toby Winckhofer, and Dave Emery.

1. NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Willard Wight asked the committee if proper procedures had been followed concerning the change to "Appendix C" that had recently been approved by the Select Board. Chairman McKeever assured him that they were as it was not a change to the ordinance itself but to an appendix to the ordinance which was revised. The harbor meeting concerning this change was posted as required, the committee voted on it, and the Select Board approved the revision, as needed.

Steve Gold told the committee that he and Harbormaster Pixley had found a perfect place for an outhaul at Curtis Island for public use to access the island. Willard Wight voiced concerns about bathroom facilities for added foot traffic and Steve Gold feels that it would not be an issue as he does not feel it would create any more foot traffic and that the outhaul would make for safer conditions when accessing the island. Steve Gold asked the committee to support him bringing this request before the Select Board and Chairman McKeever said that certain procedures needed to be followed in order for the committee to make a request. McKeever said it would need to be on the July agenda for this committee to discuss further. Steve Gold voiced frustration concerning the wait time in order to request the proposal and McKeever explained the position of the Harbor Committee as an advisory position only and therefore, the subject needed to be investigated more and discussed further within the committee before making a suggestion to the Select Board. Arthur Andrews told the committee that there is already an outhaul on the east side of the island and Steve Gold said that the caretakers of the island do not want the public to use as it is needed by them. It was decided that Harbormaster Pixley will research ideas, costs, etc. and report finding at the July meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF MAY 2ND & MAY 28TH MINUTES:

Sandy Welte motioned to approve the minutes as written. Ben Ellison seconded motion. Passed 6-0.

3. HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:

Harbormaster Pixley reported to the committee that he has not been able to put pilings in for the daysailer float due to not having the proper equipment available to put them in place. He will be contacting Art Henry's who has the equipment to do this. He will be rebuilding the float for the "Angelique" which is in dire need. He will be planning a tour for committee members who are able to attend, Town Manager Pat Finnigan, and Harbor Clerk Marlene Libby of Curtis Island on July 11th at 2 p.m. as they have never been to island and it would be beneficial to have them have knowledge of the island. The committee members and select board member Jim Heard thought this was a great idea.

4. DISCUSSION OF "APPENDIX C" #7 OF HARBOR ORDINANCE:

Discussion not needed as was approved by Select Board on June 4, 2013.

5. HOIST AT HARBOR:

The committee had asked the fishermen and inspectors to attend this meeting to discuss the need of a hoist at the harbor. Dave Emery felt the hoist was long overdue and would be beneficial. Arthur Andrews was in favor of one, however, he would object to people using the fishermen float and the fishermen losing their parking spaces to accommodate the hoist. Toby Wincklhofer said as an inspector it would be beneficial with mooring needs and that it would be more convenient due to now having to use Steam Boat Landing to load moorings, etc. Ray Williamson asked how the committee would determine who could use it and it was said that it would be for fishermen and inspectors, however, it would need to be discussed as to who else the committee would have for suggestions. Willard Wight said a weight limit should be determined and McKeever spoke of an 800# limit. Wincklhofer said that for inspection work 500-550 # would be needed, therefore, the suggested 800# limit would be more than suitable. Harbormaster Pixley stated that about every harbor along the coast have hoists. The question of funding was asked and Pixley said he would speak with Development Director Brian Hodges concerning a grant request as the harbor does not have money available at this time. Willard Wight would like to request that the committee take affirmative action to have a hoist at the harbor. McKeever will have the discussion continued at next meeting and when the committee has a plan in place will make proposal before the select board. Sandy Welte said safety issues should also be considered.

Ben Ellison motioned for the committee to encourage Harbormaster Pixley to explore in detail the placement, design, and pricing of the hoist with the fishermen, inspectors and other possible interested parties. Sandy Welte seconded motion. Passed 6-0.

6. PUBLIC LANDING UPDATE:

Chairman McKeever updated the committee on recent working group meetings he has attended and is really encouraged with the groups listening to ideas and not wanting to drastically change the harbor but to improve on what is currently in place. He said the bridge idea is going to be treated as a separate plan at this time. He encourages committee members to attend the meetings.

7. ORDINANCE REVIEW UPDATE:

Sandy Welte updated the committee on the progress of the working group of updating the current ordinance. He said they are making very good progress and that they are at Section VI of the ordinance. This is the longest section of the ordinance, therefore, it will take a little longer to address, however, and the remaining final sections are short.

Steve Pixley inquired about a section of the ordinance that states that no floats are allowed in the outer harbor, which he could not find; however, he thought this was in the ordinance.

Sandy Welte said there is a provision in the ordinance that states floats are only allowed in the outer harbor if it enhances Town property. Pixley has had a request from riparian property owner, Al Johnson, to do this.

8. INNER HARBOR FLOAT WAITING LIST PROPOSAL:

The committee discussed the proposal that has been reviewed several times concerning the proposed change to the inner harbor float waiting list. Sandy Welte explained the concept to the ordinance review committee and they are in agreement that this should be part of the ordinance. Not all harbor committee members are in agreement with this proposed change. Harbormaster Pixley feels that in order for the concept to be proposed as a change to ordinance then all harbor committee members should be in agreement of this change. Ray Williamson feels that everyone should have a clear understanding of the change and be aware of all the pros and cons. Willard Wight feels the change is not fair to people on the current waiting list that have been on it for a long period of time. Steve Gold disagrees with the concept of change. Ray Williamson does not feel the concept is clear and that every option should be explored. McKeever asked Ben Ellison to put together the concept in a diagram to show how it would work on paper so that it can be visually seen by the committee and will discuss at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m. with the next meeting being scheduled for July 8th at 7:30 a.m. at the Camden Yacht Club.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene Libby
Harbor Clerk