

CAMDEN HARBOR COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF
March 1, 2012
MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Gene McKeever, Ben Ellison, Ben Cashen, Ray Williamson, Harbormaster Steve Pixley, Town Manager Patricia Finnigan, and Select Board Member Jim Heard.

NON-MEMBERS: Susan Howland (Wayfarer Marine) and Toby Winklhofer (Fisherman Float Applicant).

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

1. NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

Toby Winklhofer addressed the committee concerning approval for a Fisherman Float Permit that he had submitted. Toby in the past held a permit for 10 years before taking a 3-year break and now would like to reapply. He believes there is space available for him to do so. Harbormaster Pixley has no objection to Toby being permitted as there is space available and he has not had any issues concerning Toby in the past using the floats. ***Chairman McKeever, as Chairman, made a motion to vote on the application for approval under “non-agenda items” and to make a recommendation to Select Board. Ben Cashen seconded motion. The committee passed the vote to recommend to Select Board to approve the application. Passed 4-0.***

Chairman McKeever reminded the committee that the Budget Committee meetings were beginning and the harbor budget is on the agenda for the meeting of **Thursday, March 15th at 7:00 p.m.** and would encourage members to attend.

2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 2ND MINUTES:

Ben Ellison motioned to approve minutes as written. Ray Williamson seconded. Passed 4-0.

3. HARBORMASTER’S REPORT:

Harbormaster Pixley has spoken with Will Gartley of Gartley & Dorsky to start the redesign for a longer and wider aluminum ramp to the floats. He has also spoken with Custom Floats about a price for new connectors for the 86 ft. float to take motion out of the floats. Chairman McKeever has spoken to Will Gartley concerning the 1988 Disability Act for loading and unloading passengers onto vessels to make sure that we meet requirements needed, if any. Pixley had Bill Glover replace part of frame and replace it by the stress crack that there was concern about on the “Welcome”.

4. MEMORIAL BENCH APPLICATION REQUEST:

Barbara Spalding submitted a Memorial Bench Application in memory of J.C. Smith who passed away this year and was a first mate on the Schooner Appledore. The application was submitted with undecided text to be on the bench, therefore, the committee would like to approve the application subject to having the text provided to them once it is decided. ***Ben Ellison motioned approved the application subject to having the text submitted to committee once decided on. Ray Williamson seconded motion. Passed 4-0.***

Ben Ellison also, questioned the reserve money that is accruing and if the monies are being spent. This will be an agenda item for April for further discussion.

5. GENERAL DISCUSSION OF FY13 HARBOR BUDGET:

Ray Williamson had some concerns in several line items of the FY13 budget line items for the harbor. In the past, the committee has discussed each line item before recommending the budget further. This year the time line was limited when the discussion of the budget was to be recommended to Select Board, therefore, after scanning the line items and the total budget and comparing it to the estimated total harbor revenues and seeing that the revenues would provide enough income to cover the budget total it was voted to approve the budget for recommendation to Select Board. Ray felt the committee should have discussed the budget line by line and had hoped this would be done so he could voice some concerns with the committee and to see if they had the same concerns or maybe other ones. Chairman McKeever encouraged him to tell the committee his concerns with the understanding that the budget had already been recommended by the harbor committee to the Select Board based on the approval of the fee schedule, which the Select Board approved. Ray had concerns with the line item for the harbormaster's salary due to ½ the year he is employed at the Snow Bowl and felt that they should contribute to his salary. He had concerns with the line item for trash removal as the Parks & Rec in the past was responsible for this and now the harbor is responsible and this is an additional expense for the harbor. He had concerns with the line item for the pump out boat operations line because we have an expense line for this in the budget but it does not reflect the reimbursement from the State that the Town receives. Chairman McKeever explained to him that the harbor pays for a full time harbormaster and are able to afford to do this in order to have a harbormaster that is year round and that he is continuing to do harbor duties throughout the winter. In addition, all departments help each other in some manner and to bill for each item that is being done would be a nightmare in bookkeeping. It just is not how the town budgets work. As to the revenues for the pump out boat operations, the reimbursement money from the State is considered general fund money for the Town. The pump out boat is a harbor expense regardless of any revenues that would be generated from this reimbursement, which is not a guaranteed reimbursement. The reimbursement is not part of the harbor budget or revenues. An example for this is the boat excise tax fees that are generated from boats in the harbor are not part of the harbor budget or revenues as it all goes into the general fund of the Town to use. A timeline has been made for next year so that the budget is discussed more thoroughly in a timelier manner.

6. GANGWAY AND FLOATS IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

Discussion done in Item #3. Harbormaster Pixley said that when the new pedestals are installed that electricity will need to be interrupted during this time to the big boats.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 a.m. with the next meeting being scheduled **for April 5th at 7:30 a.m. in the Washington Street Conference Room.**

Respectfully Submitted,
Marlene Libby
Harbor Clerk