

Town of Rockport
Harbor Advisory Committee
Wednesday, June 25, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.
Firehouse Trust – Dock Square
-MINUTES-

Present: Chair, Skip Montello; Fred Hilliard; Kevin Carrigan; Larry Stepenuck; Chris Murch; Dana Jorgensson

Absent: Phil Crotty; Steve Fritch

Also Present: None.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

1. Granite Pier Extension Update

Skip Montello, Committee Chair, informed the Committee that the letter to request a review of the a no-cost appraisal or “recon” by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) for the extension of Granite Pier is in the hands of the Board of Selectmen as voted by the Committee at their May 21 meeting. He said that on a parallel track is the Committee’s request to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) for funding through Community Preservation Act money for a feasibility study for the pier’s extension. That matter will come forward at the Town’s fall meeting, he noted.

The Committee reviewed and discussed briefly some of the particulars of the ACE process and it was noted that there is a 50 percent chance that the ACE will take up the request and so pursuing a CPA grant would be appropriate. It was also noted that if the CPA grant funds became unnecessary should the ACE decide on a Granite Pier “recon” then returning CPA grant funds if awarded is a part of any grant’s conditions.

Mr. Stepenuck voiced several concerns regarding the parallel process but agreed that the Committee had taken all the appropriate steps to move the matter forward.

This matter is continued to August 23, 2014.

2. Old Business & Opening of New Committee Matters

The Committee then discussed several members’ concerns regarding some Pigeon Cove tenants and the matter of odor control issues related to rotting fish matter there. After debating several possible remedies and courses of action, the Committee agreed with Mr. Hilliard to have him speak to the lobstermen at Pigeon Cove to determine the cause of the problems discussed and give him time to move forward to remedy the situation. **Mr. Hilliard** said would report back to the Committee at their next regularly scheduled meeting. The Committee agreed that it would determine a possible course of action at that time based on Mr. Hilliard’s oral report and recommendations.

The Committee discussion regarding tenant issues at Pigeon Cove precipitated a discussion by on the rules and regulations for the Town’s harbors and leases. There was a suggestion made that the current rules and regulations be mailed out with mooring renewal notices.

The Committee also discussed possibly adding signage for selected appropriate regulations at the various Town landings and harbors. To determine what signage is posted at each area, Mr.

Montello volunteered to provide the Committee at its next meeting photographic evidence of signage now posted at the harbors to use as a jumping off point of a more in-depth discussion.

During the discussion the Committee determined that through **Ms. Jorgensson** it would make an inquiry to the Town Manager regarding the instituting of such regulatory changes and what the process would entail whether it is simply a vote of the Committee and the Board of Selectmen, or whether these changes must go to a Town warrant to be instituted.

Also discussed related to the rules and regulations, it was suggested that the Committee hold a workshop with related Town staff during the off-season specifically to review and discuss updates to the harbor and piers rules and regulations, rather than trying to take up the matter piecemeal.

The issue of illegal parking at various Town wharves was also touched upon, but it was noted this was an enforcement issue and that the Town's Police Department is aware of the situation and does what it can with its resources in the summer months.

Mr. Murch, Mr. Hilliard and **Mr. Stepenuck** met with the Board of Selectmen for their reappointment to the Committee. They reported that the meeting was positive. **Mr. Montello** said that the Board of Selectmen informed him they are very impressed with the Committee's efforts in their on-going projects.

The Committee then very briefly touched upon the Tool Factory's Chapter 91 license amendment.

The Committee, by unanimous consent, agreed to the date of Wednesday, July 23 for its next meeting, location to be determined. **Mr. Montello** encouraged members to submit any matters for discussion to him in time for the agenda's posting.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgensson
Substitute Recorder

DOCUMENTS/ITEMS SUBMITTED AT MEETING: None.