

Town of Rockport Harbor Advisory Committee Annual Report for 2007

Tuesday, December 18, 2007

January- Read discussed and accepted 2006 annual report as Chair submitted it. Discussed goals for 2007 for committee and all harbors, to include finishing trap storage for Pigeon Cove Wharf, updating and correcting the Harbormaster job description, recruiting new members to fill vacant positions.

Mark up the Pigeon Cove Wharf storage plan as best we can before actually measuring it.

February- Go over Pigeon Cove Wharf drawing and newly assigned sizes of spaces on upper level as to make the trap storage areas affordable to fishermen and conforming to sizes in other harbors. Inform all harbor association members of the proposed \$100.00 fee for the hoist land. Go over the recently revised Harbormaster job description.

March- We had a brief discussion with representatives of the associations from two harbors about the purposed fee for the hoist lease for the hoist land. Meeting ended early we did not have a quorum.

Chair sent letter to Board of Selectmen (BOS) recommending section #14 Pigeon Cove Wharf be awarded to A.Santo.

April- Go over Harbormaster Job Description letter to the BOS to insure committee is in agreement about letter contents.

Met with Harbormaster regarding letters and bills to all on mooring waiting list. Outcome, letters will be sent out every three (3) years instead of every year to save the task of mailing and collecting. A post card will be sent out stating that a fee of \$ 30.00 will be collected every three years with that due in 2009. The chair had the post cards made up and stickers were given by the Harbor Department with the addresses of those on the list. Assignment of placing the sticker onto the post cards was given to three committee members. The post cards were then mailed by the town.

May- The committee met at Pigeon Cove Wharf and proceeded to lay out the new trap storage areas on the upper level. This was accomplished before dark. Establish a name for fisherman's association for Granite Pier so that town can bill them for hoist land.

June- Reviewed map for upper level map, developed by chair, for accuracy before being given to BOS. Readdressed Summer Moorings off front and back beaches. Sent letter to BOS with updated and corrected Harbormaster Job Description.

July- No meeting

August- Discussed Pigeon Cove with regards to the Tool Company's latest plan which has been accepted by two town committees. Question was posed by citizen about use of loading of traps in future on tool company wharf.

September- Chair sent a DRAFT letter to BOS suggesting how to solve hoist problem at the Granite Pier as requested by BOS. BOS voted to accept HAC proposed actions and directed HAC to proceed with plan.

The HAC worked on the rules and regulations for the hoists in all harbors and completed a draft proposed addition to town by-laws on September 29th. Some committee members reviewed this draft along with B. Lee and one word was added to the draft.. At the Sept. meeting the committee went over the hoist leases proposed by the town and agreed they needed work for the Main harbor and the Granite Pier, this was duly noted and annotated. The chair met with the town administrator and he agreed with the corrections to the two leases.

October- The committee discussed and voted to approve the Draft letter to the BOS regarding the hoist Rules and regulations with few exceptions. The chair made the changes and on September 28th sent the final version to the BOS for approval. The BOS approved the final version of the “Proposed Rules and Regulations for Rockport Harbors Commercial Fishermen’s Hoists” to be included with proposed additions to the Town By-Laws for the next town warrant.

November- The talked with Bob Morris about getting the fishermen presently storing gear on the upper level along the rip-rap wall to clear an area next to the wall in order for the HAC to remark the new storage areas. This was agreed to be done in the Spring of 2008 when the traps go back in the water.

December No meeting scheduled

Goals for 2007- Put in place those issues that were resolved in 2007ie, Finish the Pigeon Cove Wharf upper level trap storage marking and assignment of the new areas, insure the Granite Pier and Main harbor hoist leases are correct and all parties are in agreement, get an answer form Personnel Board on revised version of Harbormaster Job Description, make an effort to fill the vacant positions on the committee and continue to work hand and hand with the Harbor Department and try to resolve any Harbor related issues that arise in the year to come.

Members: C. Nichols (Chairman), W. LaMachia (Secretary), M. Clay, J. Lucas, and S. Oullette.

Respectively submitted

Charles Nichols, Chairman Harbor Advisory Committee, Town of Rockport

