

Marina Advisory Committee Minutes

April 28, 2021

Present: Joe Aberdale - Chair, Walter Baron-Vice-Chair, David Stamatis, Martha Wilson, Frederick Felix, Sam Peper, Kevin Coakley, John Wolf

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Venue: ZOOM

Announcements, Open Session and Public Comments

None

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of March 31, 2021 unanimously approved on motion by John and seconded by Martha.

Harbormaster Report

Harbormaster not present.

Marina Concerns

Members reported that some docks are in the water.

John and Martha raised the issue of whether or not a mooring permit holder is required to install their mooring during the season.

David initiated a discussion about the poor condition of the fuel dock again this summer and that it has caused some damage to his boat. The old fire hose with protruding rusty nails needs to be replaced with a standard rubber dock bumper as the present arrangement causes deep scratches on boat hulls. Joe has also experienced hull damage due to this condition.

David also mentioned the unevenness of the connected docks being dangerous as he tripped and took a bad fall last season.

John initiated a discussion about excessive speed in the channel and frequent violations of the "No Wake" rule. Kevin spoke about the danger to kayakers and small boats. All members joined in the discussion with agreement that the violations are a serious problem and need to be addressed. Members supported the idea of placing a "No Wake" sign on the breakwater by the beacon, as the sign placed there in past years

seemed to be helpful. Members also supported speed limit enforcement in the channel.

Walter expressed the need for marina staff members to be stationed outside of the office by the boat launching area, assisting boaters, directing boat launching traffic, maintaining order, etc.

Martha made the following motion which was seconded by John. The MAC recommends that the harbormaster improve the condition of the fuel dock and place a "No Wake" sign at the breakwater. The motion passed unanimously.

Members agreed that these issues will be addressed with the harbormaster at the next meeting.

Dredging Update

The Dredging Task Force has been working to achieve our dredging goals. A grant for state funding was submitted and another grant for engineering work for new harbor pilings will be submitted in two days.

Joe stated that the contract for the town's lobbyist was recently enacted and our lobbyist will be working with our congressional delegation and the top commanders of the Army Corps of Engineers to secure the permit to dredge Area 2, the mooring field. The goal is to start dredging Area 2 on October 1, 2022. Joe has also been working with staff members of our congressman and two senators. Communication has been established with the various agencies who are presently refusing to sign the permit. All efforts are being made to ensure the start of the next phase of dredging on October 1, 2021 (engineering plans, funding, contractor bidding, etc.).

New Business and Future Concerns

Sam would like to give an overview of his research on the Marina Enterprise Fund.

John Riehl has requested time to give a presentation on the NRAB town warrant which he would like the MAC to support.

The next meeting will be on May 26, 2021 at 7:00 pm via Zoom.

Walter moved and Martha seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:48pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Aberdale.