

Marina Advisory Committee Minutes, 2023

June 28, 2023

Present: Joe Aberdale-Chair, David Stamatis-Vice-Chair, Douglas Straus, Martha Wilson, James Gray, Will Barrio, Brittany Tilton
Absent: Frederick Felix, Will Sullivan

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.
Venue: Zoom

Announcements, Open Session and Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of May 31, 2023, were approved unanimously on a motion made by Will Barrio and seconded by Martha.

Harbormaster Report

Brittany reported that they have hired two new staff.

Work continues on the water lines. John Wolf is working on his model for a water system in B Dock.

Discussion took place about the Indian Neck Dinghy Dock. Brittany stated that the dock was never meant to be a dinghy dock for people to tie up to it for long periods of time. It is to be used for loading and unloading for mooring field boats. Four out of six docks are ready to go in the water with the other two needing significant amount of repairs and they are waiting for dock hardware to be delivered. Doug expressed that the docks need to be extended out into the mooring basin because the area is so shallow.

Doug asked whatever happened to the parking plan, including that for trailers, that the Committee recommended. Joe related that Will initially accepted the Committee recommendation but then decided to have a marina consultant oversee the parking issue.

Dredging Update

Joe stated that his information is that negotiations continue with the Army Corps to secure the permit to dredge. Dredging bids were received from the Burnham and Cashman Companies with Burnham being the low bidder at \$4.2 million. The deadline to receive the \$2.5 million state grant was June 30th but the town has been granted a two week extension.

Marina Concerns

Concerns were expressed about the marina and fuel dock hours. Brittany stated that the marina is open seven days each week from 7:00am to 6:00pm with the fuel dock closing at 5:30. Several members stated that they would like to have the marina and fuel dock open to a later hour. David stated that he cannot get fuel with these hours to accommodate his business needs. Brittany stated that more staff is needed but not many people apply. The pay is \$20 per hour.

Doug made the following motion. *That the harbormaster evaluate the marina staffing of the fuel dock and if possible to make the operational hours from 7:00am to 7:00pm. That the harbormaster please report back to the Committee his response within seven days.* Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

David expressed his concern regarding the management of staff to accommodate expanded hours. He referred to the state Department of Revenue evaluation of the marina that concluded that the fuel dock generated a lot of money for the marina and that it should be utilized as much as possible.

Edward expressed his safety concern regarding boat bows and gear intruding onto dock areas.

Joe related that several people have not been able to email the Committee via the present contact system as set up by the town administrator. Joe requested Brittany to check on that and she agreed to.

Several members commended Brittany for being present and active on the docks.

Will Barrio stated that he would support the Committee not meeting until the end of August as he is very busy. A discussion took place and the need was expressed about the importance of meeting during the bust summer months when there are usually the most issues to address. Joe made the following motion. *That the Marina Advisory Committee continue on its usual*

schedule of meeting one day each month during the months of July and August. Motion was seconded by Doug. Motion passed seven to one.

Election of Officers

David nominated Joe to be Committee Chair and the motion was seconded by Ed. Motion passed unanimously.

David was nominated by Doug to be the Committee Vice-Chair and Kevin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be on July 26, 2023, at 7:00pm via Zoom.

A motion to adjourn was made by Doug and seconded by Martha. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Aberdale