

Marina Advisory Committee Minutes

March 27, 2024

Present: Joe Aberdale - Chair, David Stamatis- Vice-Chair, Martha Wilson, Kevin Coakley, Doug Straus, Frederick Felix, Edward Kane, Brittany Tilton, Will Sullivan, John Wolf
Guest: Wayne Clough, Kevin McMahon, Lauren Kaufman

Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.
Venue: Zoom

Announcements, Open Session and Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 28, 2024, were reviewed and were unanimously approved on a motion made by Martha and seconded by Doug.

Marina Placards

Lauren gave an update on the final revised placard which was acceptable to the Committee members. Motion to approve made by Joe. *The Marina Advisory Committee supports the final draft for the placement of the cultural committee's placard along the marina walkway.* Motion seconded by Martha and unanimously approved.

Harbormaster Report

Will stated that the docks are being placed in the water. He's working with the police department on the dog pooping issue on the pier. Maintenance is being done. All of the lease agreements went out last week by email and Brittany stated that the slip waiting list has gone out as well.

Discussion of Possible Extension of Boating Season

David, Martha, Frederick, Joe and Will Barrio supported an earlier start and later ending to the season. David stated that the fines issued after October 15th are unreasonable and that boaters should get an increased season with a 7% fee increase and that the fees have increased over 20% in three years. Martha questioned how many boaters are really abusing the October haul out date. Also, she makes a strong effort to have her boat hauled out by the deadline but has no control over the company she has hired. Joe made the following motion . *The Marina Advisory Committee recommends to the harbormaster that the 2024 boating season begin on May 1st and end on November 1st.* Motion seconded by

David. Motion passed unanimously. Joe will send a copy of the motion to the harbormaster and select board.

Discussion of Marina Signage

David presented his research with photos regarding other Cape Cod marina's signage. They all have "Boat Owners and Guests Only" signs placed at the top of the gangways. Several members spoke about serious violations that frequently occur at the docks by adults and children. Doug stated that this is a liability issue, not procedural, and fully within the harbormaster's authority to enforce. Doug made a motion for *The Marina Advisory Committee to approve the recommended signage "Boat Owners and Guests Only" to control non-marina people from using the docks facility for the 2024 boating season.* Motion was seconded by Edward. Doug agreed to withdraw his motion and support David's motion. Motion made by David *"The Marina Advisory Committee recommends to the harbormaster to install signage prominently posted so to be clearly visible at the top of each ramp throughout the marina's Northside at access to slip holders areas from the marina's A through E dock, in addition, to the South side to include all ramps that include boat slips leased from the town. This signage should read **Boat Owners and Guests Only** and should be posted prior to the 2024 boating season.* Motion seconded by Douglas. Motion passed by everyone except one member. Joe will send the motions to the harbormaster with a request for his responses to the Committee and the harbormaster agreed to do so.

Marina Concerns

The fee schedule was discussed. Doug stated his concerns about two categories that appear to be in error. Frederick stated that there is confusion about the transient slip fees and transient seasonal people and how they are dealt with. Doug pointed out that a 20 foot boat is charged the same fee as a 70 foot boat. Several members find much confusion on the transient slip policy and the harbormaster confirmed that there is no formal policy. Doug and Frederick and the harbormaster agreed to meet to develop a draft regarding a transient slip policy.

Kevin provided an update on the ice machine issue. A Request for Proposal did go out to get bids to make a purchase. Providing power is going to be a large issue. Kevin looked at the ice machine in Newport Harbor. The area next to the shellfish office is what the ice machine committee is seriously considering. The issue of the consultant contract submitted was discussed. Doug has professional work experience in waterfront development and stated that the proposal submitted is entirely inadequate to meet the marina evaluation needs. There is a need to determine what the scope of the evaluation should be. John Wolf will check with the town administrator to determine where the process is at this point.

Dredging Update

John is working on a plan to garner support from the congressional delegation to get the Army corps of Engineers to reverse their decision and allow the town to dredge Area 2 without the town having to pay a fee.

Meeting Format

There was a discussion regarding changing the format to a hybrid format. A motion was made to adopt the hybrid format by Frederick. *The Marina Advisory Committee adopts the hybrid meeting format starting with the next meeting and going into the future.* Motion was seconded by David. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business and Future Concerns

None

The next meeting will be on May 1, 2024, at 7:00pm or whenever the senior center is available in the hybrid format

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:12pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Aberdale