

Minutes  
Harbor Committee Mtg  
Thursday, June 11, 2015, 4pm

Meeting Called to Order at 4:03pm

I. Members present: Christopher Brooke, Laura Ludwig, Victor Seltsam, David Flattery, Susan Avellar, John Santos; Rex McKinsey (staff). General Public: Peter Brown, Banner.

II. Review Minutes — minutes from the meeting 5/28/15 were reviewed. David moved to approve the minutes as presented, Chris seconded and all were in favor.

III. Public Statements — none

IV. Harbormaster Report — We are about to close out the beach nourishment grant, regarding the beach extending from the Boatslip east to the bank, an area which would be able to receive the dredged material removed from several key areas (where wave attenuators will be, Ryder Street beach, Freeman Street beach, etc.). The grant brings us to the pre-application phase of the process. Next year will involve the public process to finish up the beach management plan.

At the June 25th meeting, Callie Harper from CC Commission will discuss the next steps of the beach management plan.

V. Continued Business — Kayak Racks — Kayak racks have been designed to be portable and possible locations were discussed. A likely location is the boat trailer parking area at the West End Boat Ramp, made more likely because it would not need to come before the Conservation Commission. Victor also suggested installing tie-up rings in the beach wall where many kayaks are currently stored, in order to prevent float-aways. Concrete blocks are currently used to tie up to, which present a hazard.

MOTION: Chris moved to recommend to the BOS that we install a kayak rack in the boat trailer parking area of the West End Boat Ramp; David seconded the motion. Discussion ensued - rack should be as close to the wall as possible. Victor would like to include in the motion that we should remove the blocks as well, but John recommended making a separate motion regarding the blocks. All were in favor of the original motion.

In addition to removing the cinder blocks, John recommended installing a “trot” line to accommodate as many dinghies or kayaks as possible. Susan wondered who would be responsible for removing the blocks. David suggested that we hand out an information sheet when people get their kayaks permitted.

MOTION: Victor moved to remove the cinder blocks and post a sign stating no blocks allowed; and to install mooring rings in the wall. Chris seconded the motion; and all were in favor.

Regarding the NOI for the ConsComm, we may not need to submit one if the rack/s are installed on pavement. We currently are on the ConsComm agenda for July 21, and Rex recommended holding onto the slot in case we need it between now and then.

Regarding the Harbor Regulation amendments vis a vis kayaks, Rex presented members with the updated regulatory language changes, which were approved by the committee at the 5/28/15 meeting and which will be presented at the June 22 BOS meeting.

John pointed out that we are petitioning to install a rack at the same time we are proposing making kayaks seasonal. David questioned whether the BOS would entertain limiting the number of permits issued for kayaks. Rex anticipates that the new regulations, including a doubling of the permit fee, may discourage less than committed kayak users from even bringing the boat to the beach in the first place, and therefore thinks we will see 20% fewer kayaks during the next season.

MOTION: David moved that the committee recommend to the BOS the draft letter dated June 22. Chris seconded the motion. The vote was approved unanimously.

VI. New Business - Victor proposed that we choose another time slot for our meetings so that it is not sandwiched before the Pier Corp, when we always lose Rex. Rex pointed out that we can continue on without him. John requested we table the discussion until the next meeting.

John is concerned that there is less and less shore front access for commercial fishermen, and would like to investigate a certain stretch of Route 6 to see whether fishermen could use it as a storage and work area. David discussed the ownership relationship between state and town and CCNS. Apparently the state does not own any of the road, it's owned by either the Park or the town. Peter Brown suggested we talk to the town planner about this first, because the town has already been discussing the same issue.

Regarding Chapter 91 review, Rex recommends that we devote one whole meeting to discussing that and the Amended Harbor Plan.

The floating docks and wave attenuator plans are underway. Dredging will commence next summer. Rex is looking for the next funding opportunity to secure another grant to work on the engineered beach, hoping to dovetail the work with the wave attenuator installation.

There will be one more meeting before summer break.

Chris moved to adjourn; David seconded and the vote carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:56pm.

Next HC meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2015, at 4pm in Town Hall.