

# TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

## HARBOR COMMITTEE

### MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2000

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#### Meeting Held in Town Hall

**Members Present:** Joyce Guide (Chair), Al Davis, Carla Anderson, Rex McKinsey, Mel Cote (Alternate), Sheila LaMontagne

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** David Ditacchio (Harbormaster), Rachel Crosby (Recording Secretary)

### REGULAR MEETING

Chair Joyce Guide called the meeting to order @ 4:00 P.M.

#### APPROVE MINUTES

**August 16, 2000** – *Carla Anderson made a motion to approve as written, Rex McKinsey seconded and it was so voted, 4-0, 1 abstain (Al Davis).*

#### DISCUSSION – HARBOR REGULATIONS -

- **Comments from Newspaper Advertisement** – no comments received to date. Ad will run one more week.
- **Comments from Marine Superintendent** –
  1. References to Harbor Planning Committee should be changed to “Harbor Committee“
  2. Regulation 2-3-14, concerning dinghies, should be eliminated.
  3. Mooring Fees for non-commercial vessels – long overdue for increase, perhaps need to be doubled
  4. Develop a booklet of Harbor Regulations to distribute with mooring permits
  5. Fish space – remove reference to space #2
- **Comments from Harbor Committee members**
  1. Al Davis questioned increasing the resident mooring fees without knowing what additional services the extra revenue is buying. Mr. Ditacchio commented that all the mooring fees now go back into the General Fund, though that may change when the Pier Management Corporation is established. Joyce Guide read from a list of mooring fees for towns on the Cape and the South Shore. Joyce Guide asked whether rental mooring fees should also be increased and the Committee discussed increasing commercial mooring fees. Rex McKinsey suggested having the discussion on fees at a separate time as the discussion on the general Harbor Regulations. Carla Anderson asked Mr. Ditacchio to provide a list of suggestions for other fee increases, including comparisons with fees in other towns. Mr. Ditacchio said it had been his understanding that the Selectmen had agreed to not change the commercial fisherman fees until after the Pier Project was completed.
  2. Mr. Davis asked about the possibility of house-boats/barges and live-aboard vessels in the harbor. Mr. Ditacchio explained how the Harbor Regulations might impact that situation. The Committee agreed to include such vessels in their discussions on the Regulations.
  3. Mr. Ditacchio commented on the difference between citing a vessel owner for violation of a local regulation versus State regulation violations. The former returns the fine revenue to the Town, while the latter sends the fines to the State. The Harbormaster’s Office is currently drafting wording which will give the Harbormaster staff the right to issue violations on local regulations which mirror the State regulations.
  4. Al Davis asked about personal watercraft (jet skis) and Mr. Ditacchio reported on several jet ski-related

- recent incidents. The Committee discussed the possibility of banning personal watercraft in the Harbor. In response to a question from Ms Guide, Mr. Ditacchio reported on the number of violations issued to personal watercraft this year versus last year. Mr. Ditacchio reported that he did not expect to receive any additional help from the State on personal watercraft.
5. Al Davis suggested adding regulations requiring liability coverage and/or bonding of commercial fisherman who use the Pier.
  6. Carla Anderson questioned/commented on the following:
    - Speed of large boats through the fairway – figure out a way to slow these boats or divert them. Possibility of adding an additional buoy to make a wider turn around Long Point. Mr. Ditacchio suggested asking the Coast Guard about the additional buoy. The Committee discussed sitting down to discuss speed with the large boat owners.
    - Slowing all boats down inside Long Point, especially visiting boats who are unfamiliar with the Harbor.
    - Why some fees/permits have different start and end dates. Mr. Ditacchio explained that it depended on whether the fees were following the Town fiscal year or State regulations.
    - Rewrite section of Regulations concerning parking on the Pier, especially to provide for greater enforcement.
    - Why the enforcement of beach regulations, especially concerning dogs, is done by Harbormaster staff. Mr. Ditacchio said his Department had received a directive from Police Chief Anthony to enforce dog activity by-laws.
    - Pump-Out Boat Policy – discuss funding for Pump-Out Boat as part of the Harbor Regulations. Mr. Ditacchio clarified how the Pump-Out Boat was utilized, clarifying that the Boat’s funding grant specified it was to be used only for recreational vessels. Mr. Ditacchio commented that he would be applying for another grant to build an on-shore pump-out facility. Ms Anderson said she would like to see some sort of pump-out facilities extended to small commercial vessels.
    - House Boats – need specific regulations
    - Specific regulations for the period of time the Pier is being reconstructed
  7. Rex McKinsey questioned and commented on the following:
    - House Boats – extend definition of vessels to include all manner of live-aboard vessels. Modify mooring requirements to allow for greater windage of houseboats. Include house boats in regulations which apply to other vessels – do not make a distinction on whether they are motorized or not. Mr. McKinsey disclosed that he is currently constructing a house boat, but that he did not feel it necessary to recuse himself from the discussion.
    - Include block moorings with those normally inspected at low tide.
    - Section 2-4-4 concerning mooring chains – change to prevent Styrofoam from breaking loose and littering harbor and beach, i.e., encase Styrofoam.
    - Enforcement of Harbor Regulations – clarify how violations can be appealed.
    - Zones and Anchorage Area – clarify who can moor in private mooring fields. Clarify right to anchor behind breakwater, especially during Pier construction.
  8. Sheila LaMontagne questioned and commented on the following:
    - Change/eliminate bylaw requiring owners of private mooring fields to have pump-out facilities, as the Town Pump-Out boat is now servicing boats moored at those fields.
  9. Joyce Guide questioned and commented on the following:
    - Skiff/Dinghy dock usage – change to reflect modifications made by Selectmen. Also, reword to clarify who can pull up to yellow line.
    - Fees – consider adding an additional category for tuna holding pen moorings.

*Carla Anderson moved to continue the discussion of the Harbor Regulations until the next meeting, Al Davis seconded and it was so voted, 5-0.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

David Ditacchio reported that he had received an inquiry from someone interested in operating a para-sailing operation from MacMillan Pier and inquired whether a fee or business license would be required. Ms Anderson said it might depend on where the business’ commercial transactions took place. The Committee expressed concerns about the frequency with which the para-sailing vessel would be using the dinghy dock.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

