

Minutes

**Public Facilities Committee
Gloucester High School Guidance Department Conference Room
Leslie O. Johnson Rd.
Gloucester, MA 01930
December 18, 2012**

Present: Patti Page, Phil Cusumano , Cate Banks and Jim Caulkett

Chairperson Banks opened the meeting at 6:03 P.M.

Item One: Army Corps of Engineers - Annisquam River Dredging Jim brought the committee members up to date on the status of the Corps' survey of conditions along the river with regard to possible dredging. Two obstacles remain. The first is to determine an acceptable disposal site. The second is to justify the need to dredge the river. The Corps of Engineers does not consider the primary use by recreational vessels to be sufficient reason to expend federal funds to dredge the Annisquam River. Jim will submit an inventory of the tonnage of landings by vessels using the river, including vessels who cannot transit the river at the current depths but who would if it were dredged. The Corps needs substantial evidence of use by commercial vessels in order to justify the expense of dredging.

Patti Page suggested that Jim talk to Jack Wiggins.

Item Two: Inner Harbor Mooring Grid: Chairperson Banks reviewed with the committee the proposal from CLE engineering with regard to their final mooring grid for the Inner Harbor. Jim will contact Susan Nilson to see if we are still waiting on a final meeting to discuss an as yet to be received color coded plan with mooring assignments and a spreadsheet with coordinates for mooring positioning and installation. The committee then proceeded to draft the following task list, not in any particular order.

- 1) Estimate the per mooring cost and length of time to relocate a mooring . Ask Susan Nilson for input.
- 2) Will the WWB enterprise fund contribute to this? General feeling is no.
- 3) What time of year to do the re-grid?
- 4) Require that permittees use this opportunity to get their mooring gear up to the new minimum standards outlined in the regulations.
- 5) Permittees are responsible for the cost of all ground tackle that needs to be replaced.
- 6) Require that one contractor, who is equipped to be precise in locating moorings for a grid such as this, be used for the entire mooring field.

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7) Develop a power point presentation for a public meeting to which the Inner Harbor permittees and wait list folks will specifically be invited to attend. Contact via e-mail was discussed.

Chairperson Banks asked the committee to review what we discussed regarding the re-grid and be prepared to comment on it at the full board meeting.

Item Three: Waterways Board Projects The Public Facilities Committee agreed that the following items on the Draft WWB projects list fall under their purview; Launch, Soloman Jacobs, Maintenance of Public Facilities, Mooring Survey, Public Landings and the Inner Harbor mooring re-grid. The Committee agreed that the following is a joint task with the Operations and Finance/Safety Committee; National Grid property long term rental agreement. The Committee came away from the review with tasks to undertake for discussion at the next Committee meeting.

Under "Maintenance of Public Facilities", Patti Page requested documentation about how Dave Williams is exchanging rent at Harbor Cove for services. Perhaps the Board should discuss a written plan. Also questioned was whether the Board wants a periodic professional assessment of the condition of the Commercial Marinas to use as a guide on a maintenance plan.

It was agreed by the committee that the goal is to have well maintained facilities and use our own staff as much as possible to achieve this goal.

Item Four: Review of Chapter 91 licenses One Chapter 91 license application was presented by Jim Caulkett for a property located at 31 Rocky Neck Ave, formerly known as Bickford's Marina. Jim will fill the Board in on this as well as research any possible request to provide a dinghy tie-up. A site visit to this property was cancelled due to heavy rain and is rescheduled for Friday morning January 4, 2013 at 9:00 A.M.

Item Five: Review of amendments to mooring permits None

Item Six: Continuing and unanticipated business Jim presented a draft letter to the mooring permittees describing the fee increase as well as a request regarding dogs on public landings

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cate Banks