

WATERWAYS BOARD

3D Floor Conference Room City Hall

Gloucester, MA 01930

December 1, 2015

Present: Anthony Gross, Ralph Pino, David McCauley, Patti Page, Mark Lacey, Vito Calomo, Jim Bordinaro, Karen Tibbetts, Jim Caulkett

Also Present: Cate Banks, Stefan Abramo, Joan Hayes, Susan Nilson and Gary Perry (CLE Engineering), Jim Marshall, Chris Lucido, Chad Johnson, Arthur Munroe, Jamie Crawford, Valeria Gilman

Oral Communications: None

Approval of Minutes:

>Motion: On a motion Anthony Gross, second by Ralph Pino the Board voted unanimously to approve the November 10, 2015 minutes with the following correction and addition:

Page 1, Proposed Plum Cove Moorings 2nd paragraph, 3rd sentence: replace “this particular area” with “Plum Cove”

Page 1, Dave Smith: (GZA) Magnolia Pier, 2nd sentence: add “report attached” after condition:

Plum Cove Mooring #IB-08: Board members discussed the issuing of a mooring in Ipswich Bay to Stefan Abramo. Since this mooring is off Plum Cove Beach many questions arose about the safety in this area and his access to the mooring.

Mr. Abramo stated that he goes around to Lanes Cove by paddle board or a dinghy to get to his mooring. After discussion Chairman Gross feels there is no solid reason to deny this mooring permit.

>Motion: On a motion of Ralph Pino, second by Vito Calomo the Board voted unanimously to take no further action on this permit.

>Amendment to Motion: Add: Due to exposure boat being moved and made stable on right side up for better maintenance. **Board unanimously approved – mooring issued.**

CLE Presentation: Susan Neilson and Gary Perry of CLE Engineering presented the Board with their overview of their findings of the Assessment of the Harbormaster’s Department. Their objective was to identify any areas which hinder or prevent the Harbormaster Department from performing its assigned responsibilities, goals or objectives and to offer suggestions for the removal of such obstacles and to suggest ways in which the responsibilities, goals or objectives might better be met; to evaluate the adequacy of management practices being utilized in the Harbormaster Department with respect to fiscal controls and use of available personnel and equipment; to suggest specific ways and means by which the functions and services of the Harbormaster Department might be improved. Areas reviewed were organization, patrols, safety, mooring management, customer/public relations, adequacy of financial controls, inspection of facilities, public landings, commercial marinas, and equipment and integration and use of technology. They interviewed the Harbormaster, Clerk, Assistant Harbormasters, WWB members, and several other Harbormasters for their input as to how they work and maintain their departments. They found the key areas for improvements are mooring management, financial controls, IT systems, organization/staffing, training. Best practices were emergency response, positive working relationships with Gloucester, Police, Environmental Police and U.S. Coast Guard, grant funding opportunities, Harbormaster is knowledgeable and experienced in statutes and regulations, low staff turnover, staff and policy makers largely support changes. It was noted that there were 50 recommendations, some small and others large and discussed with the Board. It is critical of several current practices in the office. A long discussion followed by all.

>**Motion:** On a motion of Anthony Gross, second by David McCauley the Board voted unanimously to accept the report from CLE Engineering dated November, 2015 **Motion passed**

Dun Fudgin Solar Lighting: Jim Caulkett reported that the Seaport Council approved funding for the lights at Dun Fudgin. Six lights will be installed from Emerson Avenue to the boat ramp and should be completely installed by spring.

National Grid: Jim Caulkett reported that the dredging in the harbor is on schedule and the materials are delivered daily to New Hampshire. Jim added that the fishermen have been notified of this operation.

Mooring Revocations: Jim Caulkett reported that there were 58 revocation letters mailed and their mooring renewals were pulled.

Harbormaster Report: Jim reported he received verbal approval on November 23rd from Ross Kessler, (Massachusetts Public Access Coordinator) that the City was awarded the \$15K grant through the Small Grants Program to build a new float for the Magnolia Pier Public Landing. All pile guides chain/roller connections have been replaced and the two float rub strips identified on the public landing side at St. Peter's have been replaced. Assistant Lucido and Jim performed an inventory of the Magnolia Pier Public Landing on November 24th as recommended in the Magnolia Pier Pile Inspection Report. Jim will be filing with Conservation and Building Inspector for permits on these repairs. Discussion followed on ladders,

>**Motion:** On a motion of David McCauley, second by Ralph Pino the Board voted unanimously to take up to \$1,800 from 58760 account for repairs to Magnolia Pier. **Motion passed**

Jim met with the U.S. Guard and Massachusetts DOT personnel on November 30th to discuss the temporary change of operation for the Blynman Canal Draw Bridge. MOT is requesting the opening on demand be changed to a 2 hour advanced notice between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m. December 2015 to April 30, 2016. At the request of Mayor Theken the Rosemarie Trefry/Ramblin Rose termination of lease at Harbor Cove Commercial Marina was rescinded. A formal letter was hand delivered to Ms. Trefry on November 25, 2015 advising her of the decision and that all terms of the current lease were to be adhered to or the termination would be enforced. Courtney McGeachy, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation contacted Jim about setting up a dumpster for old fishing gear. Jim is waiting to hear from PW for a location to place a dumpster.

Subcommittee Reports: None

Discussion Items Not Anticipated: Jim Bordinaro suggested Public Facilities Committee review mooring swaps. Vito Calomo spoke of the mess at St. Peter's Marina and the person responsible. He feels this person should be spoken to and maybe a threat of revocation of his lease if the mess is not clean up. Also discussed was at look at the leases at Harbor Cove Commercial Docks and St. Peter's Marina, also insurance and landing slips.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley M. Edmonds

