

MINUTES  
**Waterways Board**  
**Kyrouz Auditorium City Hall**  
**Gloucester, MA 01930**  
**October 3, 2017**

Present: Chairman Anthony Gross, Liam O'Connell, Harbormaster TJ Ciarametaro (HM), Deputy Harbormaster Chad Johnson, Jim Bordinaro, Peter Yung, Mark Lacey, Steven LeBlanc, Tony Guess and Karen Tibbets

Absent: Phil Cusumano, Russell Sherman  
Recording Secretary: Robin McQueen  
Chairman Gross opened the meeting at 18:00

**Oral Communications:**

Patti Page inquired about the status of the Granite Monument @ Solomon Jacobs Park. HM Ciarametaro stated that he would look into it..

Susan Atenburger spoke to the WW Board in regard to vessel safety.

**On a motion by Liam O'Connell to Approve the August 1, 2017 Minutes:** Tony Gross made a motion to accept the Sep 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes. Seconded by Liam O'Connell.  
All in favor.

**Harbormaster Moorings survey report and assessments:** HM Ciarametaro reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of surveys for the season have gone out with an 80% success rate. In addition, 200 assessment fees have gone out as well resulting in \$2,400 revenue. Dinghy dock survey list needs to move non compliant habitual users in Lobster Cove. It is permitted for 56, but realistically can hold only 30.

**HM Report:**

This has been a successful year resulting in 2,000 hours on launch and accommodating many transient boaters. Positive (4.8 stars) ratings have been noted. Dunfudging boat ramp fees are proposed as follows:  
\$75 For a season pass for any size vessel  
\$8 per use  
Jim Bordinaro made a motion to accept the \$8 per use fee and \$75 season pass fee. Seconded by Liam O'Connell. All in favor.

The contract to install Sal Jacobs targeted for 3<sup>rd</sup> week of October. This will include gangways, pump out, bridge and plumbing. Delivery of final floats to complete marina **are expected soon**

**Launch season pass fee referral to OF&S:**

Refer out for discussion as launch is being used non-stop resulting in constant need of adequate staffing. Jim made a motion to accept. Seconded by Liam O'Connell.  
All in favor.

**Annisquam River dredging update:**

**The HM and City Administration met with the Army Corp of Engineers and it was reported that the previously completed sampling and testing of the materials to be dredged has expired and will need to be redone. This is considered a shallow dredge project with an estimated cost of \$7 to \$10 million. The USCG will not use the Annisquam River at most tides and this problem was highlighted during a recent marine rescue in Ipswich Bay. The HM and City Administration are engaged in ongoing discussions with the Army Corp of Engineers.**

**Presentation of the Seaport Economic Council's Sponsored Feasibility Study for a Site Selection Study for a Visiting Boater Support Center and Harbormaster's Office on Gloucester Harbor, by the Harriman Group:**

Steve Cecil gave a PowerPoint feasibility study presentation of proposed areas for the Visiting Boater Support Center and Harbormaster's Office to increase revenue for the City of Gloucester. The following areas were reviewed:

Existing Harbor Loop (current location)

Cape Pond Ice

112 Commercial Street

65 – 65 R Rogers Street

417 Main Street

6 Cripple Cove Lane

**Public Hearing/Comments on the Harriman presentation of Sponsored Feasibility Study for a Site Selection Study for a Visiting Boater Support Center and Harbormaster's Office on Gloucester Harbor.**

The following residents spoke their concerns/ideas to the WW Board and the meeting was open for public opinions @ 18:30.

Cate Bank stated that the current conditions are from the mid 1990's. Showers and more slips are now needed to accommodate transient boaters.

Joe Ciolino, City Councilor, asked that tonight's PowerPoint be added to the HM website.

Susanne Altenburger suggested that there is a need for an economic impact study and possibly using temporary floats as did Boston's Floating Children's Hospital, first to determine if there is need for a permanent structure which may impact the infrastructure.

Patti Paige read the proposal for public weighing in. She voiced concerns whether the residents of Gloucester will be accommodated in this center.

Steve LeBlanc, City Councilor, stated that there will be ample opportunity to discuss community concerns, but at this time, the Board is here to review the presentation of the Sponsored Feasibility Study from the Harriman Group.

City Councilor Joe Ciolino stated that the end goal is to obtain funding from the State. This is the first step in which the Mayor is committed. When, and if, the money is granted, this matter will go before the public.

Damon Cummings voiced that the City of Gloucester owns little waterfront property, and that Harbor Lop is the only feasible spot. Also since the YMCA has discontinued the youth sailing program the City should look into reestablishing the YMCA program.

City Councilor Joe Orlando as the CC liaison to the Tourism Commission is seeking a presentation of this study from WWB to the Tourism Commission.

Pattie Paige, from 3 Tidal Cove Way in Gloucester, inquired about dockage plan, floats removed and the Maritime Sailing Program with the 2 YMCA berths.

Susanne Attenburger

Deaken Banks looks forward to visiting boaters.

Jim Boreland from Rust Island is in favor of the findings by the Harriman Group. He further stated that response time is very impressive @ the current Harbor Loop.

Two emails were received:

Robert Schick sent an email of support for a Community Boating Center to be located at I4C2. Chairman Gross sent an email in reply informing Mr. Schick that tonight's Public Hearing was about a Visiting Boater Center co-located with the Harbormaster's Office.

Ralph Pino, former Economic Development Representative to the WWB, sent an email in strong support of the economic benefits to the City of a visiting boater center, while a Community Boating Center would be an expense and service that will not bring visitors to the city.

HM Ciarametaro thanked all for showing up tonight for the Public Hearing. Gloucester has the ability to glean from the local and outlying boating community and improvement for public access offering amenities such as showers at this Visiting Center and Harbor Master Office and will only enhance the City and allow it to thrive in the coming years.

The Public Hearing closed @ 19:45.

**Discussion items that were not reasonably anticipated by the Chairperson, in accordance with M.G.L., 30A, Sec. 18-25.**

Deputy HM, Chad Johnson, referred to his email regarding new Open Meeting Law language and that all WWB members must read new language and sign that they did so.

**Adjourn:** At 19:55 on a motion by Jim Bordinaro, seconded by Liam O'Connell.

All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robin McQueen  
Waterways Board Recording Secretary