

Harbor Commission Meeting (no voting quorum) Draft
Present: Melissa Maker (Chair), Howie Edwards, Richard Whitman
Absent: Joe Auciello, Guy Polyblank, Sam Ladley
Guests: Ron Huber (Friends of Penobscot Bay), Matthew Ondra (DMR)
Staff: Audra Caler-Bell

Date: 1/19/16

December minutes approved with one correction. Steve Hale/Captain Jack application was voted on and approved.

Fish Pier (Richard Whitman)

Nothing new to report.

Harbor:

Audra reported on cruise ship bookings. There is a new small/medium-sized ship this year from Blount cruises planning two stops in Rockland. Audra printed the schedule for the commission.

No Applications received.

New Business:

Melissa inquired about setting up a store with Maine-made products (like t-shirts, etc.) in the same manner as the food trucks or the scooter guy. Would this be allowable? How many spaces would be available, etc.

Comprehensive Plan: Marine Resources section. Matthew Ondra would be a good resource!
Things being considered include

- Mixed use of harbor
- Fish Pier upgrades (side note, it was dredged today – 1/19/16) entrance, accessibility, fencing, landscaping, soil sampling, balance between fisheries and tourism.
- Infrastructure upgrades – welcoming cruise ships but not sole focus. (Big cruise ships come in the fall only – we have no clear channel for them as they have in Bar Harbor. Lots of rope/line in the water that must be navigated in our harbor.)
- Management of the harbor: Harbormaster overseeing Fish Pier as well – work together more closely. Fish Pier director should report to the Harbormaster (for the past three years he has been reporting to the City Manager). Al's retiring next year.
- Harbormaster to focus on conflict resolution.
- Land adjacent to the harbor – to what level do we protect industry vs. tourism/development. (example: a specialized medical manufacturer is interested in two acres for relocating as they require sea water in their manufacturing process)

Once it's all pulled together, give Audra the ideas and she'll make sure they get in there.

Discussion about attendance at HMC meetings (Sam Ladley has told the commission he'll be missing six meetings and Joe is missing five) How does the commission feel about it? Audra

will ask Stuart about protocol – he could send letters with guidelines. We can post request for new members on the website. Not sure if there should be seven members or five? Audra will check on it.

M/V Monhegan is still out in the Harbor – not much holding it there and its condition is unknown as of late. Not so easy to get rid of it and its potential liability. Legal letter needs to be sent to get it out of here.

Audra will miss the next meeting. Audra will speak to Eric Gallant from Mid-Coast Regional Planning Commission about GIS mapping, etc. that may be beneficial for the HMC.

Handout: Public Landing – Design and Engineering Services request for proposals. (see attached)

Adjourned at 7:05 PM.
Sandy Billington