

ST. GEORGE HARBOR COMMITTEE
St. George Town Office
MEETING MINUTES
December 4, 2018

The Harbor Committee meeting was called to order at 6:04 P.M. by Chairman Morris. Members present were: Chairman Dan Morris, Peter Henderson, Glen Hall, Michael Cushman and Ben Norton. Also present: Tim Polky (Town Manager), Randy Elwell (liason to Select Board) and Dave Schmanska (Harbor Master).

Public Present: Carl Danielson and Jonathan Coggeshall.

Quorum is met.

Agenda was discussed. Meeting minutes will need to be reviewed from over the course of the year and approved by the board for the town website. Reviewed December 2017 meeting minutes and November 18, 2018 meeting minutes.

Noel has nothing further to add right now but will know much more information regarding the permitting by the end of the week he would have.

A motion was made by Ben, seconded by Glen, to accept meeting minutes from November 19, 2018. The vote was 5-0; motion carried.

Dave mentioned that each meeting will have more prior meeting minutes for the board to review and approve. Peter talked about how it is very informative to be able to read the meeting minutes.

Chairman Morris asked if there was any public comment? None.

Harbor Master Office:

- 1) On Friday evening a boat bringing the pilot back and forth to Monhegan Island and a fishing boat (Misty May) were in a collision. Coast Guard dealt with the situation.
- 2) Kevin Plowman with the Coast Guard called Dave on behalf of the Fishing Partnership wants to schedule training in Tenants Harbor. It is a bigger program and goes more in depth. It goes over most things that McMillan goes over and includes other things like chopper rescue procedures. Dave will have more information and website for the next meeting. Kevin wants to come into Tenants Harbor, Dave contacted Josh Miller to see if it could happen off of his wharf because dates didn't work with the town floats being in the water. It may also be able to happen in Port Clyde depending on when the floats are in the water and schedules conflicts with the Coast Guard.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Changing Regulations in Tenants Harbor

Dave explained that Tenants Harbor is getting extremely crowded and the fleet has outgrown their limits. Currently there is a 14 foot blanket limit with no stipulations as to outboards, etc.

Dave asked the board if they should and/or how do we solve this problem. Do we implement a 12 foot limit with a 10 horse power limit?

Peter mentioned that there are at least 4 boats that are oversized. Kayaks are their own problem. Recreational boater has a hard time to get to their little boats. Row boat float was the original intention. Coming back in, you have to be elbowing your way in.

Possibilities that were discussed: dingy fee limitation? Registration system/sticker to slap on the bow? Discourage usage? Combo of dingy fee and limitation? People leaving kayaks/canoes? Dingy float (10ft or less)? A member suggested they would go to 12. Designated commercial space? Ordinance in effect only during "summer months"? Change the regulation only for recreational users and leave commercial users at 14 ft which would eliminate complaints from commercial users and just effects recreational users. Wouldn't need an area set aside for commercial because the new regulation wouldn't affect commercial boats.

Dave counted at one point last summer and saw 32 boats counting kayaks and canoes.

Peter asked if there was an option for expansion. No room for expansion right now due to riparian rights.

Should decide about ordinance before season starts again, and then have a public hearing where the public could voice their opinions and the board could hear what they might have for a solution and then schedule a vote about it.

Recreational boats shall be no more than 12 feet long or 10 horsepower. TH only.

A motion was made by Glen Hall, seconded by Ben Norton, to amend the rules and regulations at Tenants Harbor for recreation vessels to be no longer than 12 feet, no more than 10 horsepower and no kayaks or canoes. The vote was 5-0; motion carried.

Increase Mooring Permit Fee

Current Fees

\$20 for Resident Recreational

\$100 for Non-Resident Recreational

\$15 Resident Commercial

\$75 Non-Resident Commercial

\$75 Rental Mooring (per annum)

Maybe bump application fee? \$50 right now. It has been 10 years since these figures were last reviewed. Money goes into general fund for the town.

Recreational to Commercial Moorings ratio with commercial being anything from clammer to dragger is about 30% of total.

1,100 moorings in town. Wheeler bay, river, big area that covers 125 miles of shoreline.

Most other towns charge a base fee and then pay per foot.

Rockland is \$50 flat rate, and an additional \$10 a foot over 30 feet.

Dave will get some options together for the next meeting, what he is looking at for numbers and compare them with other areas. Dan said Stonington would be a good comparison. Members agreed this was a good thing to think about for next meeting.

December 18th next meeting at 6:00 P.M. Meeting about a little bit of everything. Will have a report from Noel to review, hopefully.

One a motion by Glen Hall, seconded by Michael Cushman, it was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal L. Tarjick
Harbor Committee Recording Secretary