

Islesboro Harbor Committee
Special Meeting
Wednesday, July 22, 2026
In- Person Meeting at 6:30 PM, Town Office

☒ **APPROVED**
8/20/26

MINUTES

Call the meeting to order and establishment of a Quorum:

Chair George Evans called the meeting to order and a quorum was established at 6:31 pm.

Members Present: Chair George Evans, Vice Chair Greg Janney, Ken Smith, Gil Rivera, Dylan Purington, Earl MacKenzie

Members Absent: Peter Anderson

Others Present: None

Discuss proposal to apply for a LEAP grant to pay for an inspection of the Grindle Point Pier, performed by GEI Engineers. Estimated cost: \$15,000.

- George asked for clarification on who applied for the LEAP grant.
- Dylan explained that the funds are already allocated for Islesboro through the Island Institute, along with Milbridge and Stonington. We have \$15,000 to use for planning.
- Dylan became aware of the grant at the Maine Harbor Masters Association. At the Island Institute, Emily McCarthy works for us five hours per week. She came and met with Dylan about the Grindle Point pier because he was interested in funding a railing repair or replacement, but the money is not meant for actual infrastructure. It's for planning.
- Dylan met with Emily McCarthy and two people from GEI Engineers, Leila Pike and Lauren Flanders. The question is whether we want to use the LEAP funds for a formal survey of the pier, so we could potentially use that survey to apply for more funding.
- George stated he asked Emily to send him a breakdown of the survey estimate.
- Earl stated that for any grant we apply for, we will need a study with an engineer's stamp.
- Dylan added that this type of inspection will be useful when we go after more funding.
- Earl stated that if it's not coming out of taxpayers' money, it's worthwhile to pursue this. Each year these grants come up, and if we can be shovel-ready to apply for something, that would be great.
- Greg stated he was under the impression that this would be a prerequisite for any future opportunities.
- Dylan shared the estimate that came via email. It has a total of \$20,000. The committee went over details. George is wondering, since we have a granite pier, why \$17,000 of the estimate is for diving.

Task 1 - Pier Inspection	Expenses	Labor	Total
1.1 Dive Equipment Mobilization	\$ 1,317.30	\$ 4,788.00	\$ 6,105.30
1.2 Safety Plan	\$ -	\$ 1,254.00	\$ 1,254.00
1.3 Dive Inspection Planning & Coordination	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 1,580.00	\$ 4,680.00
1.4 Dive Inspection	\$ 966.00	\$ 3,712.00	\$ 4,678.00
1.5 Topside Inspection	\$ 34.00	\$ 3,160.00	\$ 3,194.00
Contract Total			\$ 20,000.00

- Earl asked if there's a way we could pursue it to get the engineering study for the top of the pier, above the granite. We may not need the diving part.

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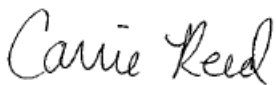
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- Dylan's understanding is that, if we're going to apply for more money, we would need an underwater survey. However, this is a big engineering firm. We can ask Island Institute if there is a less expensive but well-regarded firm that we could use. GEI indicated that they can do the survey, and then presented the estimate to us.
- Dylan added that there's a deadline on August 31st.
- Earl asked if there's a way to find out if it could be phased, and tell them that our concerns are the steel underpinnings, the decking, the railing, etc., and not the granite base.
- Ken asked why we have information from only one company. Dylan replied that his sense is that Island Institute has worked with this firm, and that they provide a thorough survey.
- George suggested finding a different engineering firm, and make sure the \$15,000 is still available.
- Earl stated that Tom Fowler is now working with a structural engineering group out of Thomaston.
- Earl suggested that Dylan ask questions and see if this could be broken down. It would be good to get an inspection of the upper parts. Try to negotiate. We can ask Leila and Lauren about details on their estimate.
- Dylan will talk with Emily about other firms, and possibly connect her with Tom.
- George suggested letting Emily know that we think the quote is excessive. We understand the need for a proper survey, but we don't think that 70% of the survey should be related to diving. We would like to consider using a different engineering firm.
- Discussion about details and possible solutions to investigate. Dylan will reach out to Emily.
- George thanked Dylan and thanked everyone for coming.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:58 pm by E. MacKenzie, seconded by G. Janney. No discussion. Motion passed 6 yes, 0 no.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie Reed, Secretary