

MINUTES

Call the meeting to order and establishment of a Quorum:

Interim Chair Ken Smith called the meeting to order and a quorum was established at 6:28 pm.

Members Present: Interim Chair Ken Smith, Palmer Sargent, Gil Rivera, Dylan Purington, Peter Anderson, Earl MacKenzie

Via Zoom: Stan Makara

Members absent: None

Others Present: Dick DeGrasse, Robert Giles, Hilary Giles

Ken Smith welcomed Peter Anderson to the Committee as the new Select Board representative, and congratulated Dylan Purington as new Deputy Harbormaster. Welcome also to our guests.

Approval of Minutes of April 20, 2023.

Motion: To approve Minutes of April 20, 2023, as written, E. MacKenzie, seconded by P. Sargent. No Discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no, Unanimous.

Purpose of the Harbor Committee

Ken reviewed Town of Islesboro Ordinance § 142-6, the purpose of the Harbor Committee

- Essentially, the Harbor Committee is involved with everything that happens in the waters around Islesboro, including the anchorages and the passages. We recommend to the Select Board anything that should be a policy change or an improvement. It's getting to be a bigger issue because of the competition that happens for the waters around Islesboro. This will continue to be a challenge. Big boats can bring in revenue, but also pose a challenge.
- If you see something that according to the ordinance should be brought to the attention of the committee, please say something.
 - For example, the hoist at Grindle Point: we noticed last year that the winch needs to be repaired. It has been ordered. Christian at PYY is working on it.
 - An enforcement example, this summer, we had complaints of boats speeding through Brackett's Channel. We contacted the Tarratine Yacht Club. An advisory was sent out to all the members to slow down, per the Islesboro Harbormasters.
 - The primary responsibilities are the two delineated harbors.

Vote to elect a Chair

As Dylan Purington is now Deputy Harbormaster, he can no longer serve as Chair of the Harbor Committee.

Motion: To nominate Ken Smith as Chair of the Harbor Committee, E. MacKenzie, seconded by P. Sargent. No discussion. Roll Call. Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.

Duties of the Members of the Harbor Committee

- Please attend meetings. We've had problems in the recent past with not having a quorum. We don't have many members. All of our meetings are on Zoom now, so if you are away, please attend via Zoom.

Islesboro Harbor Committee
Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 24, 2023
In- Person Meeting at 6:30 PM, Town Office

Anyone wishing to address the Harbor Committee
None.

Harbor Master & Deputy Harbor Master Reports

- Earl reported that there have been a few enforcement items; kids jumping off dock at Seal Harbor, speeding incidents, a few people didn't have dinghy stickers.
- We've had enough vacant moorings for visitors, for up to a week.
- Ken asked if the Town should think about having guest moorings. Earl feels that would be too much liability. We haven't taken federal or state funds that require us to have transient moorings. As long as we can accommodate people, we should avoid Town moorings.
- Ken asked if we should have water as a service, and drill fresh water wells at Seal Harbor and Grindle Point. Earl answered that it would be quite an expense. Most people go to Dark Harbor, PYY, or Belfast for water. More and more boats have water makers. Having water would also lead to more congestion at the docks. Earl and Dylan would oppose offering water.
- Restrooms: We have a Porta Potty @ Seal Harbor, and restrooms in the Ferry Ticket Office at Grindle Point.
- Ken asked about the rotten bait situation on moorings and the wharf. Dylan answered that it is an issue, as is lobster gear. Earl stated the perpetrators have been spoken to many times. Dylan started cleaning up at Grindle Point.
- Dylan will take a Harbor Master course. There's one at Maine Maritime Academy once a year.
- At the ferry dock, there were many tying up overnight a couple weeks ago. Some were broken down, and they called to alert the Harbor Masters.
- Earl stated he got in touch with the new caretakers at Seal Island. Their boat is available for emergencies. Earl has their cell number.
- Ken asked if any members have been attending Sea Level Rise Committee meetings. Earl stated he's been following the issue. The storm surges are getting worse; there's more erosion. Ken recommended the members be more involved.
- Ken asked if there is anything the Committee can do to help the Harbor Masters. We wrote some materials last year to encourage people to register their boats, etc. Earl stated that we can improve some of our signage—update or add onto existing signs. One issue is if someone isn't going to be here for an extended period, have them pull their dinghy out.
- Have a pump for dinghies, available for public use, to encourage people to keep their dinghies bailed. Dylan stated it's the boatowners' responsibility to keep their dinghies bailed. We can try to keep a long, manual pump available. Earl will look into it.

Update on Mooring Inspections

- We discussed last year how we are going to get people to comply with the Ordinance requirement to have moorings inspected every two years.
- Earl reported that we are making progress on it. All the boatyards are behind this year. Earl gave one of the yards a list of five moorings that need to have proper lettering/numbering and color coding.
- There are about 76 moorings at Seal Harbor, and quite a few less at Grindle Point, so approximately 100 in Harbor limits. There are other concentrations of moorings, and progress is being made with lettering and numbering.
- Ken asked how many docks have been approved this year. Earl answered about four.

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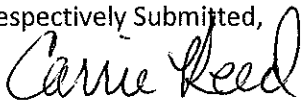
- Discussion about riparian lines and rights in regards to moorings. We had an issue recently with the Crates and their neighbors on West Bay Rd. Earl spoke with the neighbors and suggested they talk with Mr. Crate, who had the mooring moved. It was resolved peacefully, and everyone is satisfied.
- Ken would like each mooring in Seal Harbor and Grindle Point to be identified for the map. He is using the state software, and will make it available to the Harbormasters.

Preliminary Budget Discussion

- Dylan and Earl will work together to create a list of items that need attention.
- In the next 2 – 5 years, there will be some big items.
 - Ferry dock underpinnings need to be scaled and recoated.
 - Seal Harbor dock, main I-beams; the vertical member is losing metal.
 - Extend the incline at Seal Harbor. Earl spoke with Shey Conover about this. It needs repair.
- Maybe start budget work in October.
- We will eventually need a new outer dinghy float at the ferry, and new dinghy floats at Seal Harbor. When we buy a new float, mark it with date.
- The new winch is an unexpected expense. Earl instructed PYY to repair the old one and keep it as a backup.
- Dylan asked about opinions on installing an incline and float at the bump-out at the Ferry dock. Earl stated that was designed as a landing. Should the Town be on the lookout for used equipment? Earl recommended it be a seasonal float. We should keep this on our radar.

**Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:24 pm by E. MacKenzie, seconded by D. Purington. No discussion. Roll Call.
Motion passed 7 yes, 0 no.**

Respectively Submitted,



Carrie Reed, Secretary

