

Harbor Committee Minutes

For

June 8,2021

Meeting held via Zoom

Attendees: Foster, Reis, Bright, Motenko, Lemoine, Black, Johnston, Fernald, Savage, Litchfield

New Business:

Cody Seavy was introduced, he purchased the Charles Bradley barge service; has done work on MDI for years, wants to continue doing work in the harbors. Asked to provide proof of insurance which he will do. Motion to accept, unanimously approved.

Greg Johnson was introduced to present and discuss a draft of the permit application to NRPA to have the work done on the North and South float abutments, with best options. The committee will have a two-week period to review the application. Motion made and approved to hold a special meeting to approve the application on June 22 via Zoom call. Greg was thanked by the Marine Management Committee for his comprehensive work on this project.

Seafood Buyers permit has been \$1,000 for 15 or so years, and it was suggested this be raised to \$5,000 ,as Southwest Harbor and Tremont are \$6,750 each. Lobster 207 seems to be the only active buyer to at NEH. It was recommended that the fee be \$5,000 annual, calendar year, limited to 4 permits. Bright made a motion to raise the permit to \$5,000, starting with the next cycle, seconded by Savage, motion approved.

The additional scheduled June meeting will be conducted via Zoom, with in person meetings to be determined for September, although town Selectmen meetings have recently been opened to the public. Going forward it is likely it will be both by zoom and in person; from here on meetings will also be recorded with audio only.

Howie reported on the selectmen meeting where it was determined not to issue a permit for Back Roads tours to set up at the marina and also Suminsby Park this summer. They had asked for 30 dates, but the committee felt it was too much activity for a small area and limited general use by residents and other visitors; there also had been no financial contribution to the town, unlike the other bike tour that patronizes the town with lodging, meals and shopping.

It was brought up that the Jitney bus is in violation of zoning regulations with the sign and advertising. There was also a lot of concern regarding use of the marina as a public parking spot for tourists getting on the buses. It was felt that the parking use was designed for users of the marina and village green. With Bar Harbor's installation of parking meters, it appears visitors are using the Northeast Harbor marina parking instead, and many days in the past there have been no available parking spots in the marina. The MMC Parking Committee will be surveying use of the lots this summer. It was recommended that the Marina Management committee go to the selectmen to present the problem and work to come up with a solution. The Jitney has taken over the service formerly provided by the Explorer, but for pay, while the Explorer was a free service. All Businesses operating out of the marina are supposed to be permitted for that use, especially with scheduled service, which this is. Bright mentioned that large Avon's with big engines are tying up at the dinghy dock although they don't exceed the 14' limit; they should be at the other dock for larger boats.

Submitted by
Story Litchfield