



## Town of Southwest Harbor Harbor Committee

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6:30pm

### Attendance

**Committee members:** Corey Pettegrow, Nick Madeira, Brian Walls, Andy Mays, Anne Napier

**Excused Absences:** Joel Harper

**Unexcused Absences:**

**Harbor Master:** Adam Thurston

**Selectmen:** Lydia Goetze

**Public:** Story Litchfield, Noel Musson

### **I. Call to Order / Role Call**

Joel Harper is excused, all other present.

### **II. Acceptance of Minutes**

The committee voted to approve the previous two meeting.

Cory made a motion to accept the minutes.

Ann seconded.

Vote (5-0)

### **III. Visitors to be Heard**

Story Litchfield says that she is here to listen in on the cruise ship discussion.

### **IV. Lower Town Finger Floats**

The Harbormaster handed out a sketch of a new design of the Lower Town finger floats. The new design would extend the existing floats 40 more feet with the addition of two 6 x 20 floats. An additional pilling may have to be added to the end of the structure to keep it secure. The harbormaster will see if it is feasible to attach it to the existing fender pilling on the existing dock. Corey asked how much water was at the end of the floats at low tide. The harbormaster said there not much at low tide but he thought it would be enough to float skiffs. Andy said that the current set up makes the side of the float unusable for larger vessels and that this looked like a good solution.

Corey made a recommendation that the harbormaster move forward with the project as presented.

Brian seconded.

Vote (5-0)

### **V. Harbor Fees**

The harbormaster handed out the recommended fee structure for 2017. Corey says that the lobster truck fee should be put back to \$2300. He stated that the truck is being singled out, and wonders why that fee was raised while none of the other fees were raised.



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Corey made a motion to recommend that the lobster truck fee be set back to \$2300.  
Nick seconded. Vote (5-0)

### **VI. Harbor Comprehensive Plan Update**

Noel Musson presented the committee with a hand out from the harbor comprehensive plan committee. (See folder). The comprehensive plan committee has been looking at several harbor issues including; Public access, mooring management, facilities planning, harbor budget, and ordinance revisions. Corey questioned why we are still looking at the Knote property considering the town has already voted it down. Noel stated that the committee is looking at all the possibilities that exist for the town. Corey stated that the town of Southwest Harbor is full, how many people do we want? How will it affect the local's way of life?

Noel re iterated that the Hook property is still the most important property for the Manset dock. Noel stated that the mooring plan should be re visited and implemented. Andy asked if we have heard anything from Hook? Lydia said that an appraisal will be done in May before offering any money for the property.

### **VII. Cruise Ship Discussion**

Corey stated that he went to the meeting in NE harbor last year where the town denied the cruise ship access to their harbor. It was stated that if the cruise ship was not welcomed in NE harbor then they would go to Southwest Harbor. Andy stated that both the eastern way and western way are packed full of lobster traps during the summer and there is currently no designated anchorage for this size of vessel. Corey stated that our harbor is already at capacity and the town docks do not have the infrastructure to handle this type of use. Story stated that NE has dealt with this cruise line last year and they have had nothing but trouble with them. She said that we are able to control our town docks but we can't control where they navigate in state waters. Noel suggested that allowing tenders with passengers on a privately owned dock could be a change of use for that dock based on the land use ordinance. Andy said that he has tried to look at this issue different ways to try to figure out who in town would benefit from it and he cannot come up with an answer.

Corey made the recommendation that the town needs to find some sort of avenue to prevent cruise ship passengers from coming ashore in Southwest Harbor. This does not include the current traditional use of the windjammers.

Ann seconded.

Vote (5-0)



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### VIII. Comments for the good of the committee

Ann stated that it is important to maintain access to water front areas for handicapped individuals. She suggested a space at the upper town dock should be utilized for this activity. Public access should be maintained not only for boat owners but for everyone.

The harbormaster showed the committee a set of plans for Beal's lobster to add some new pilings to their floats. The committee agreed it was a minor project and they saw no issue with it moving forward.

### IX. Suggestions for

Nick asked if Noel would be able to look over our ordinance and give us some ideas for the future.

### X. Adjournment

Corey made a motion to adjourn.  
Nick seconded.

Vote (5-0)