

City of Alpena Harbor Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes 4:30 p.m., Thursday, September 2, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Committee members present: Ed Retherford, Al Moe, Wayne Lewis, Tanner Kostelic, Jason Luther, Jeremy Winterstein

Committee members absent: Don LaBarre, Steve Wilson

Staff present: Shannon Smolinski, Rachel Smolinski, Steve Shultz, Cassie Stone

Others present: Eric Szymanski (NEMCOG)

Others absent: Anne Gentry (DDA)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA –Motion by Lewis, Second by Moe, Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 3, 2021 -Motion by Retherford, Second by Lewis, Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

1. Master Plan -

a. Charette Results- There seemed to be a few new ideas but a lot of the same things that were previously discussed. The idea of bringing in items from the lighthouse seems like it would be more work than what its worth as far as maintenance and the possibility of vandalism. Having a service group to maintain might be the way to do if brought up in the future. There were mixed feelings on the bathrooms down there that might be a security concern. If the bathrooms are open to all public there is more of a chance that it will not be maintained or cleaned enough. Spider control was also a concern. Shannon added that she is looking into using Neem Oil to spray on spiders to see if it will help. Still working on Wi-Fi improvements. Probably will not have until this Spring. To figure out what would be beneficial to putting in culverts that run into the marina would be to first test the water quality by doing a study of water temperature and nutrients to find out what the issue is with the water quality within the marina. This study could possibly be completed by working with a Watershed

Organization. Shannon is going to look into finding any documentation on the existing culverts and possibly just getting them cleaned.

b. Master Plan Review – Eric stated that Chapters 1 & 2 will be ready for the next HAC meeting. Chapter 1 will be the introduction, including nearby amenities and boater’s market analysis. Chapter 2 will be the executive summary which will include overall goals.

c. User Survey Results – There was only 23 responses which was discouraging given that over 270 post cards were sent out to users of the marina.

2. Operations Updates –

a. Winter Storage Agreement – HAC members agreed that everything looked ok on the Winter Storage Agreement.

b. Slip Rental Agreement – No sailing into the harbor unless you have auxiliary power needs to be added in. Wording also needs to be changed regarding not being able to use on-board toilet facilities while in the marina. Changing it to boater’s are encouraged to use facilities available at the marina. Additionally, trailers are not allowed to be stored in the parking lot and must be stored offsite. The city will relocate the trailers at no charge.

c. MDNR/CAMIS – It has been highly recommended the city use the CAMIS system. This includes boat slips, gas, ice, etc. Employees and dockhands are getting trained on how to use the system. The Department of Treasury has not been very happy with the reporting that they have been previously receiving. Currently still trying to keep the house accounts at the marina as there are several people that are still using them. The marina will keep a credit card on file for the people and the card will be charged after so many days if it’s not paid.

d. Clean Marina Program – Catch basins must be marked as part of the Clean Marina Program. The (M) sections in the certification checklist all must be 100 %, either non applicable to us or yes. The next section is recommendations where we will have some wiggle room. In order to get the certification, the marina needs to be at 75%. Members are asked to go through the list and find out what is important to them and what is not to be able to reach the

75%. Currently working on a recycling program for the used oil. Being a Clean Marina Program will save the City \$1500.00 a year on insurance.

e. Nine Miles/Nine Reasons – Members are asked to supply nine reasons for every nine miles on why to come into the marina which will eventually be available on a website as part of a marketing campaign to get the word out on what Alpena has to offer. Shannon is meeting with Mary Beth at the Convention Center in January.

3. Marina Pride – Members agreed it would be a good idea to push forward and try to reach out to people to form a volunteer committee and get them together to introduce upgrades that need to be done around the marina. A possible press release could go out through the media asking for help. An email could be sent out to all of the people that attended the charette at the Yacht Club to see who would be interested in contributing to marina updates. Garden Club is planning on finishing up the wall at the marina for their next project.

4. Critical Issues

a. Reevaluation – Shannon would like a member or two from the committee to do a walkthrough with Rachel at the marina in the near future to generate a new critical issue list for concerns that need to be addressed. Moe volunteered and possibly Retherford.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MEMBER'S COMMENTS: Moe questioned if Arlee and Reed are still going to be doing mechanical work at the marina. As part of their agreement this year they will have the ability to work in Bay 3 rent free for this season. Retherford asked what is being done with the materials in the store? Shannon stated that Rich is planning on having a out of business sale at the store sometime after Labor Day. Moe asked what the plan is for the retail part of the marina. Shannon stated this winter she will be getting with Mike Mahler and inquiring on what the fair market value for lease on the building and sending out a request for proposals for interested parties to run different sections of the marina in the space that is available.

STAFF COMMENTS: None

NEXT MEETING: Set for October 7, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Retherford, Second by Kostelic