

City of Alpena Harbor Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes 5:00 p.m., Thursday, February 16, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

Committee members present: Wayne Lewis, Steve Wilson, Tanner Kostelic, Don LaBarre (Left at 5:34), Jason Luther, Brian Peterson, Rick Konecke (virtual), Al Moe (Left at 6:06)

Committee members absent: None

Staff present: Shannon Smolinski, Steve Shultz, Anne Gentry (virtual), Cassie Stone

Staff absent: Rachel Smolinski

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – *Motion made by Lewis, Second by Wilson* to modify the agenda and add Yacht Club Sponsoring Venetian Night under the business section, Motion carried.

Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Kostelic to approve the amended agenda, Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –January 5, 2023 – *Motion by Wilson, Second by Kostelic* to approve the minutes as presented, Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

1. 2023 Dock Replacement – Shannon stated that four dock bids were received and only two of the bidders we had sent the request for proposals to. One bidder missed the bid time so he was disqualified. Members gave input on the bids that were received. LaBarre stated he definitely felt some bidders had more experience than others. Moe expressed interest in Flotation Docking Systems from Cedarville being that they have been around for 30-40 years. Lewis asked if the Canadian firm (Kropf) that uses the culvert for floatation fills it with foam? Shannon replied no its just air so its an easy repair if you get a hole in it all you have to do is braze it shut. LaBarre felt the Canadian firm (Kropf) had the most robust package and seemed to have the most bulletproof system that he could see. Holcomb Enterprises submitted a bid that was way out of the budget. Moe questioned how much

money we had to work with. Shannon stated \$316,000. Wilson stated that our docks still look good they just need some repairs and maybe when Flotation Docking Systems from Cedarville is here, they could do some repairs. Shannon stated when she spoke to Joni, she explained what the issues were with the docks and the product to repair them is now available and she was going to get back with Shannon with a price for the repair material. Lewis feels like it's coming between Flotation Docking Systems and Kropf. Lewis added he likes the Canadian system but Cedarville isn't very far away from a warranty stand point. Shannon stated she reached out to Cedarville a year ago asking for help with the docks and Shannon finally heard back from the Cedarville company two weeks ago when Joni was here. Kostelic asked what the warranty was on the docks with Shannon replying there really is no warrantee on them because they are docks. Luther felt that Kropf's bid was very complete and super detailed, and you know exactly what you are getting. Kostelic added that he liked the fact that Kropf's docks can be frozen right in the water and there was no problem. Peterson likes the idea of Cedarville and the docks all being the same and it might be possible for them to do some repairs on the docks we currently are using but if those docks are at the end of their life span then the new design proposed seems to be a very superior system. Moe added that Kropf could have the docks in by the end of June which is really quick. Could that be a bad thing? Shannon stated Kropf could have the docks delivered by the middle of May. Shannon had spoken to the boaters who said they would not be opposed to temporary relocating to allow for the new docks to get installed. Flotation Docking Systems would not be able to install the docks until after Labor Day at the earliest. Shannon added that the docks from Flotation Docking Systems would still get delivered here even though they won't go in till October if no delays. Konecke said Kropf would be the better one to go with. Members agreed it might not be a bad idea to reach out to at least one of Kropf's previous customers to see what they thought of them and their product. LaBrecque Services called into the meeting and was asked upon by Shannon to give the members some insight on to his proposal. LaBrecque stated the docks were a pretty basic system and simple to build. LaBrecque added he has a lot of building experience and is not familiar with the current dock system the members are discussing but said the docks on Prentiss Street have lasted 30 some years and the new docks will be built the same. LaBrecque added that he's local and he can get it done and work with Shannon and make sure it gets done right. The docks would be in by the beginning of June and he would deliver one dock at a time as he got them completed.

(LaBarre delegated Kostelic to carry out the rest of the meeting as he had another meeting). Moe questioned the demo part and Shannon stated the demo would be a separate bid based off of the recommendation here tonight. Shannon added that a local contractor can remove the docks and the City would not have to pay sales tax because the City is tax exempt. Peterson felt that LaBrecque had the most experience with the marina but would have liked to have seen some sort of a drawing. Luther added he would have liked to also see a breakdown of his costs on his bid. Peterson added that the other bidders took their time to get more information together to submit with their bid. Moe questioned if any type of drawing was required. Shannon stated that since it is a waterways grant the state would require shop drawings. After review of the bids and conversations had with the bidders Shannon felt that the delivery date was important and Cedarville would not be able to get the docks until after Labor Day which would cost the marina money to keep the current docks going for one more season, they also need extra stuff done to be able to be ready for the docks to go in and are not supplying brackets which all together would cost the city a significant amount of money. Kropf bid is complete price with supplying the brackets and delivery and is a very simplistic system. They also submitted sealed drawings. Shannon is recommending accepting the bid from Kropf. Moe questioned if it was reasonable to get at least one verbal reference from some of Kropf's previous installs. Shannon is going to make some phone calls tonight/tomorrow and email the members Kropf's previous customers responses as she receives them. **Motion made by Lewis** to go with the Canadian company (Kropf) subject to favorable feedback from one or two of their customers. **Seconded by Luther**, Motion carried.

2. Complimentary Dockage Reports – Shannon stated that she has asked all of the complimentary dockage entities from the marina to give a report to the members on what they are doing with their complimentary docks. Trying to prevent someone just having their boat there and not doing anything to benefit the marina because that's a portion of what is asked for. Included in the meetings packet for tonight contained the email provided from Sheriff Erik Smith. Shannon added River from Alpena Youth Sailing will be attending the next meeting to present his report to the members.

3. Travel Lift Services Agreement – Shannon stated that travel lift services and winter

storage rates will be going up next year. Shannon has already started working on an agreement with All Marine. All Marine is hoping the increase will cover a third employee to allow better services for the boaters. The cost for winter storage will be increased from \$2.50 to \$3.00 or slightly under. Looking to show the members the contract in June so the contract can be in place for September 1st.

4. Yacht Club Sponsoring Venetian Night – Lewis stated the Yacht Club would like to host a venetian night which consists of people putting lights on their boats and having a boat parade at night. Starts in the boat harbor and is open to anybody to go up the river and under the bridge and turn around by NOAA and head back. It was done in previous years and people really enjoyed it. Lewis is going to coordinate with Anne Gentry from the DDA and could possibly host it later in the summer maybe in conjunction with another event that is happening in the downtown on a Saturday night.

HARBORMASTER’S REPORT: Shannon stated there is currently a conditional offer in for a new employee at the marina to replace Kelly who has left the marina to work at DPW full time. Shannon believes this new employee will be a good fit for the marina. No names can be released at this time until it’s official but the possible employee is an older gentlemen who is very handy, journeyman plumber who is very familiar with building and repairs. Shannon added that she believes we have enough dock hands for the summer but if anyone knows of a 16 and/or older person who would like to work in the marina for the summer to send them Shannon’s way.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MEMBERS COMMENT: None

STAFF COMMENT: None

NEXT MEETING: Next meeting will be March 2, 2023, at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: ***Motion by Wilson, Second by Lewis.*** Motion carried.