

City of Alpena Harbor Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes 4:30 p.m., Thursday, March 2, 2023

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

Committee members present: Wayne Lewis, Tanner Kostelic, Don LaBarre, Jason Luther, Rick Konecke, Al Moe

Committee members absent: Wilson, Peterson

Staff present: Shannon Smolinski, Rachel Smolinski (Left at 5:13), Anne Gentry, Cassie Stone

Staff absent: Steve Shultz

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – *Motion made by Moe, Second by Konecke* to approve the agenda, Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –February 16, 2023 – *Motion by Lewis, Second by Kostelic* to approve the minutes as presented, Motion carried.

BUSINESS:

1. 2023 Dock Replacement – Shannon stated the dock replacement award went forward with no problem. Contracts are signed and we are in the process of waiting to get shop drawings from the company so those can get approved. Shannon is going to work on a cost estimate to see if the docks can be spaced out since there has to have a different assembly on the end to give the boaters a little bit more room between the docks. Shannon also gave an update on a previous customer of the dock company that is going on their third year of the docks froze in and haven't had a problem with them shifting or moving. Shannon added that the spaceship lights will be removed, and she plans on putting lights on the back of the tall poles back by those docks. Shannon contacted one of our contractors that has a crane, and the contractor didn't see a problem with pulling the old docks before the date the new docks will arrive. It sounds like the docks are going to be delivered in sections with the deck boards already on and will just need to be pinned or bolted together. Shannon is also hoping to get some money out of the budget

to put utility boxes on that side which will also add some additional light. Between the contractor and Kooter, Shannon doesn't see a problem with putting the brackets in and assembling things.

2. Fishing Tournament Applications – Shannon stated she has received a few applications for permits to allow fishing tournaments in the marina from Brown Trout and a bass tournament. Shannon added she is looking for feedback from the members on what kind of stipulations should be given to applicants when the permit is issued. Moe questioned what kind of staff concerns there were. Shannon stated she is not overly concerned just would like to know about it in advance so preparations can be made to make sure staff is available to assist and make sure the fish cleaning station is up and running if there is an issue during the tournament. Moe questioned if there were any big tournaments coming in besides Brown Trout? Shannon stated there is a bass tournament taking place in September that is a catch and release but is anticipating 80 boats are attending. It seems to be an ongoing issue with parking during the Brown Trout Festival. What can be done to make it better to accommodate people during these activities so it's not such an inconvenience for everyone? Shannon would like to write up something that states these are our stipulations while you use the marina that standardizes it for everyone involved. Shannon stated something that could be asked would be to try and consolidate down and/or remove from site items that are not actively being used. Anyone that uses the marina grounds for a tournament has to supply enough port a johns to accommodate the amount of people there, so restrooms are not an issue. Right now, the fee for a permit at the marina is \$75.00 and since its budget time, now would be the time to propose a fee increase but also need to consider that community events bring people into town and money into the community. Rachel added that all departments are reviewing the brown trout application and after hearing the members comments, department comments and reviewing the site plan submitted, Shannon is going to come back with comments and conditions to be issued in the permit. LaBarre stated that comments coming from the members include parking control, more barricades, having a better understanding of the site plan with square footage that they are proposing to occupy for the event and better enforcement of overnight vehicles. Moe also added allowing enough time for staff so they are not rushed trying to get everything ready. Shannon is going to email the members the list of stipulations provided for review.

3. Concepts for Storefront – For those who haven't heard yet Cochon is going to be closing and vacating the storefront. Shannon is looking for suggestions at who members want to approach for the storefront and/or suggestions for possible business plans. LaBarre feels something in that building needs to be very much maritime based but doesn't know how successful a parts shop would really be with Arlee and Reid next door. Moe asked if Arlee and Reid would need additional workspace. Rachel stated basically everything that is received in rent is going to go back into the building for maintenance so is the revenue generating or is it there for a service? Rachel added that it was discussed about reaching out to Arlee and Reid to see if they wanted to use more of that space and maybe really look strategically at what that rent is and what we want done to the building. Kostelic questioned maybe rent out as a space to hold an event and LaBarre added maybe a training space. Rachel added maybe offering it as a pop-up space. There are even pop-up retail places. Members agreed to send out another request for proposals and see if we get any bites on it. Shannon is going to add a few people that reached out to her inquiring about the request for proposals that was sent out last time that they did not know about.
4. April Meeting Date – Shannon will be unable to attend the April meeting. Members decided with nothing pressing on the agenda to cancel the meeting or could possibly reschedule the meeting if something comes up.

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT: A new employee named Kyle Thomas starts next Tuesday. Shannon stated that he has a lot of building, maintenance and plumbing background and will be a huge addition to the marina. All four tires are here for the travel lift and are getting the rims taken care of. Shannon added that we are working on the contracts with Arlee and Reid currently. There will be a small fee increase to cover an additional employee. Shannon stated she was approached by someone that has 80 hours of community service to serve this spring and will be helping out at the marina in May. Shannon is hoping he can do some painting on the marina storefront.

PUBLIC COMMENT: A gentlemen (didn't state his name) said he has been down to the marina store a few times when we first started talking about what was going to go in down there. He added he was excited when he heard West Marine might go in down there, but it didn't

sound like they wanted to come here. We need a place to get parts up here.

MEMBERS COMMENT: LaBarre asked if we were still thinking about setting up some sort of a sitting area in front of the mural or is that now on hold because of the transition. Shannon wants to hold off for a bit as we wait and see what kind of business wants to go in there. The new business could use that area for an outdoor sitting area so Shannon doesn't want to use up that space.

STAFF COMMENT: None

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

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