

City of Alpena Harbor Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes 4:30 p.m., Thursday, April 4, 2024

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

Committee members present: Brian Peterson, Jason Luther, Wayne Lewis, Don LaBarre, Ricky Konecke, Al Moe

Committee members absent: Steve Wilson, Tanner Kostelic

Staff present: Kevin Fisher, Steve Shultz, Cassie Stone, Rachel Smolinski (4:33)

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –February 1, 2024 – *Motion by Peterson, Second by Luther* to approve the minutes as presented, motion carried.

BUSINESS:

1. Slip Fee Changes – Kevin stated in accordance with the Waterways Commission and the State moving forward seasonal slips will be charged by the slip length not boat length. There have been no updates as of any increase in the actual amounts. Kevin added that this is in line with the way Grant-In-Aide Harbors are supposed to be functioning. The state is considering increasing fees 10-15% in the coming years. Kevin added Mrs. Dawson (who is in control of harbor operations for the State) will be coming to Alpena the second or third weekend in May and members will be notified by Kevin if anyone would like to speak with her. Lewis questioned where is the slip fee changes located at? Kevin stated it is available online. Waterways Commission has transient fees and seasonal slip fees posted every year. These changes are not for this current year but for the year 2025. Kevin is going to do an inventory of all the slip lengths and make sure everything is as accurate as possible throughout the summer and share the information with the boater's notification email list, so everyone is aware of it and prepared. Moe questioned if it has always been a slip length and it was never adhered to it? Kevin replied yes, slip length is charged for seasonal boaters

and transient slips are charged by boat length.

2. Project Updates – Docks & Fuel Line Request for Proposals (RFP) – Kevin stated we are working on putting together the RFPs for these two projects. This has included putting together a lot of bottom-line conservation stuff that needs to be approved by the State before it can be added to the RFP. The fuel line RFP will be going out next week. It will be a quick ten-day bid. The dock RFP will hopefully be ready to go out as well next week. Kevin stated when the new docks go in, we may need to shift some boats around for a day or two, but he isn't anticipating it to be an issue. Konecke questioned how we got so behind when we had these docks since last fall. Rachel stated we had a transition, and it has taken some time. We are moving forward now. Steve added Shannon took on a new position and wasn't readily available, so we had to fumble through and make it through stuff much like she had to do the first season she was here. We are dedicated and will get what needs to be done. Kevin stated he is aware of a couple of local contractors that will be able to do the dock installation. Don stated there was an option for the dock manufacturer to also do the install, but it was pricey, and the board opted to go this way. Don asked if the RFPs would come back to the HAC to be reviewed. Rachel stated they would be reviewed by staff and then would go to council for approval. Rachel added she doesn't see a problem with sharing the information with the HAC. Don asked if there had been any vandalism to the new docks. Kevin stated not that he has seen, and Rachel added since the last incident there has been a lot more observation out there.

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT: Kevin stated the first cruise ship is coming April 29th. Kevin added he will down at the marina 80-95 % of the week. He is going to set up a table and try to renovate the whole area in the little building and that will be his office for the summer. Kevin stated Shannon is looking into the sink hole by the crane and will probably send that out for a quick bid in the next week or so. Don asked if there has been any contact with the group that painted part of the break wall last summer and if they were planning on returning and finishing it up. Rachel stated we could reach out to the CRTC and see if they have anymore volunteer groups but added we need to take care of the more critical issues first. Kevin added there will be some new signage for out over by Big Red right across from the entrance to the marina. Kevin believes the corps of

engineers is going to put together smaller signs so the view is not blocked, and they will be attached to the guardrail on the break wall. Max size of the signage is 18x24. Konecke asked if we have heard anything more regarding the pump out. Rachel was going to investigate it and see if it got awarded yet. Don questioned if Kevin could email the committee and let them know what's going on with that and there will be no discussion. Rachel stated information can be emailed out as long as there is no reply of discussion. Don requested an update from Kevin on the pumpout information.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MEMBERS COMMENT: Peterson questioned what needed to be done to be an air b-n-b at the marina. Kevin stated there is a form required by the city to be filled out as well as a dry dock inspection by the Coast Guard. The number of air b-n-bs allowed in the marina was questioned. Rachel stated she believes it was two allowed total and it was a standard operating policy (SOP). Don questioned what could be done about the docks getting scrapes and scratches over the winter from moving around. Kevin stated maybe some plates could be put underneath them when they get brought up. Kevin added one of the boards broke and needs to be replaced and some of the bad scrapes could be sanded down. Don added he believes slip 15 has a board that connects to the boardwalk and the slip that was cracked and someone just tacked it with two screws. Moe asked that Kevin keep the members up to date with any information about the projects that are going on through a quick email. Rachel added we will follow up regarding the vessel air b-n-b information as well.

STAFF COMMENT: Kevin stated this summer he is going to turn the area by the marina building that has the murals on both sides into a community gathering space with a propane or natural gas fire pit with some patio furniture and picnic tables. Kevin added he wants to make it more open and welcoming for the public, especially since the marina is in the social district. Kevin stated if anyone would like to help or donate anything please feel free to. Don questioned if it would need to be roped off with the mechanics being right there. Kevin stated he has spoken to Arlee and that the space is open to use for the summer.

NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting will be May 2, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Moe, Second by Peterson, motion carried.