

City of Alpena Harbor Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
4:30 p.m., Thursday, September 21, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m.

Committee members present: Brian Peterson, Jason Luther, Tanner Kostelic, Wayne Lewis, Don LaBarre, Al Moe

Committee members absent: Steve Wilson, Rick Konecke

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 1, 2023 – *Motion by Lewis, Second by Luther* to approve the minutes as presented, motion carried.

BUSINESS:

1. Critical Issues List – Shannon stated the critical issues list that was included in this meeting’s packet was created by her and Kyle 2.0 (Burr) out on the marina grounds. Shannon added the marina techs have been working on this list for the last few weeks and feel they are at 50 % taking care of the things listed. Steve Wilson was not present for the meeting but named a few critical issues that Shannon shared with the members. One of the issues Steve mentioned was that some of the docks are not secure at the ends and there is also a crooked dock. Shannon believes there are some pins missing underneath and will look at it when it gets pulled out. The visiting dock (402) may be more of an issue. Shannon believes something might have sprung and is hoping the dock can be pulled completely out for winter so it can get worked on. The day dock by the flagpole needs some improvements or needs to be pulled out because it looks bad. Kyle 2.0 is a pretty good fabricator and Shannon is hoping he has some ideas on how to improve it and it also needs to be kept up on cleaning as the sea gulls and ducks hang out on the dock. The light poles by the Yacht

Club side need to be painted. Shannon was hoping to switch out the brown pole lights with the black pole lights. They would all have to be rewired but Thunder Bay Electric called and said they couldn't do it, so Shannon is not sure what is going to be able to be done with them. There was only enough money in the budget to replace 4 of the 12 lights this year but unfortunately was cut from the budget so they will probably have to just be painted instead. The spiders on the visiting slips need to be sprayed. Shannon stated the first thing the dockhands do is sweep them in the morning. The spray that was being used wasn't very efficient this year. Shannon added that a DPW tech will be taking a spraying class soon so hoping for a better solution for next season. Lewis added that the weeds were horrible this year with sticking in boat props. Shannon stated she contacted Huron Pines and felt there was an invasive problem down there, but it was because the water was three degrees warmer this year so more of the weeds grew then with normal temperatures. Shannon added that 10 – 1-ton pick-up loads of weeds were hauled out of there. The weeds were also sprayed three times this year by Clearwater from Howell Michigan, but Shannon is hoping to be able to obtain an aquatics permit allowing them to be sprayed more often. Kostelic questioned the status of the no fishing signage. Shannon stated it is ordered. LaBarre stated he did receive some complaints from people regarding the vertical beams that are loose on some of the docks. Shannon stated the issue is being addressed. Lewis added there was a post missing a few weeks ago by the ying ling lift and the bracket was exposed and was scratching the sides of people's boats. Shannon was going to check and see if it was taken care of yet. Peterson stated that when the lights get switched out, he would like to see them all go to the amber lights versus the white lights. Shannon stated that the subject is a larger city-wide discussion that is going on that will make all the lights standardized when it's done. Rachel added switching out all the lights is a very substantial cost but moving forward we do want to have consistency with our lighting around town. LaBarre asked to be kept in the loop so the committee can provide feedback from the marina standpoint once the City gets closer to a decision on lighting moving forward. Kostelic asked about the red concrete on Prentiss Street between the docks and the road. Shannon stated the paint alone costs \$2,700.00 and that includes no labor costs. Shannon stated there was a option of seal coating it black and hope the red doesn't come back through. Shannon is going to look into some prices and if its doable and reasonable she will try to get it done this season. LaBarre

also questioned the status on getting trees replaced there. Shannon stated the City is currently in the year 2019 of replacing trees that were removed and only having a budget this year to plant about 20 of the 35 that were taken down in 2019. Shannon and Steve have a grant due shortly that could possibly help with getting more trees planted.

HARBORMASTER'S REPORT:

1. New Employee – Shannon stated Kooter has left the marina and moved to Texas to help an ill family out. Kooter gave a months' notice to be able to help get through the summer, which was very much appreciated. Luckily, a previous candidate that was interviewed and almost got hired back in the Spring accepted the vacant position so there is now two Kyle's at the marina. Shannon added he is very knowledgeable, has great ideas, and is learning a lot at the marina.
2. Dock Update – The new docks have been arriving three a day at the marina and should all be there by Friday. Shannon stated since it is so late in the season the docks will not be going in right now. Shannon added how nice they are and encouraged members to go check them out if they haven't seen them yet.
3. Fuel Update – Shannon was informed by the State of Michigan that on October 7th the fuel tanks will be red tagged and locked and will not be able to receive any more fuel deliveries until the line gets fixed between the tanks and the dock. This is a huge priority to get this bid out. We did receive the grant to cover getting this fixed. Fuel will still be able to be sold until we run out. Shannon added the regulator from LARA has worked great with the City but his hands are tied now and there is nothing more that he can do until this gets fixed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MEMBERS COMMENT: Moe questioned the discounted dock rates and if this was all set now. Everyone that was told they had to pay this year, paid except for NOAA who relocated where they parked Shannon stated. Kostelic asked if there was any more progress on the Crow's

