

HARBOR COMMISSION
MINUTES
August 11, 2004

I. Roll Call

Jim Bartlett	Present
Yvonne DeWindt	Absent
Al Dika	Present
John Flemming	Absent
Tom Graham, Sr.	Present
George Kilborn	Absent
Bill McCullough	Absent
Fred Rachwitz	Present
Jane Ramer	Present
Dick Schiller	Present

Also present: Harbor Master Bob Bokram and City Manager Fred Geuder

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Bartlett at 4:05 p.m.

II. Minutes

Motion by Schiller, seconded by Rachwitz, to approve the minutes of July 14, 2004, as presented. Motion carried.

III. Public Comment and Correspondence

None.

IV. New and Old Business

A. Two-Hour Dock

Bartlett again reminded the Commission members to monitor the use of the Two-Hour (Shoppers') Dock, and be ready to discuss improvements for the dock lay-out in the fall.

Laura Kors commented that she has a mooring, and feels it would be helpful if there could be a place on the Two-Hour Dock for a "Touch and Go" pick-up spot.

Bartlett asked whether the Harbormaster helps out, and Kors commented that the staff is helpful and directs them to the pump-out or open wells for pick-ups when possible.

B. Five-Year Plan

Bartlett asked the City Manager to report on items discussed in July.

The City Manager said he had talked to Dan Carmichael of Flotation Docks, Inc. about whether there was a limit to the size of boat that could be docked on the floating dock. Although Carmichael did not have engineered numbers, he did say that the weight of our dock, with the wave attenuation structure taken into account, should be adequate to dock almost any size boat. Although it is not an exact comparison, Carmichael did not feel one 150' should be too much different from three 50' boats. The City Manager noted that usually larger boats were placed on the West fixed dock when possible however.

The City Manager noted that he now has the information on electrical needs from the Harbormaster to initiate a meeting with Squire Electric and the City's Electric Superintendent. Then a plan can be worked out for upgrading the power on the floating dock.

The Commission discussed dinghy storage.

Dika commented that with the water up, this issue needs to be continually monitored.

Rachwitz said that as a mooring holder, his needs for dinghy use may change, for example going from a rowed dinghy to a motorized one.

Jane Ramer suggested looking at how Weque is handling dinghies at their dock; it may be a model for us.

The City Manager showed the Commission an industrial products catalog noting that there may be materials available to put over the rocks at the dinghy storage location by the Harbormaster building.

C. Harbormaster Update

Bartlett asked Harbormaster Bob Bokram to comment on the year-to-date.

Bokram noted that there were three open slips the prior evening, which has never happened this early in August to his knowledge, but that July was full. So the total year would be down a little.

The City Manager asked whether there were any conflicts between the Coastal Crawl and Regatta, since the quirk of the calendar placed them on the same weekend.

The consensus of the Commission was that while not a desirable timing, there appeared to be no conflicts. Jane Ramer said this would usually not occur.

Bokram commented that Bryan Burley had done an excellent job as coordinator of the Regatta from the Little Traverse Yacht Club (LTYC). He had provided the best information possible to the Harbormaster.

Bokram was asked whether or not some of the Regatta boats arrived early, and whether or not they stayed longer than the seven-day rule allowed. Bokram said that one or more boats may have been over the seven-day limit, but that since they were there for the Regatta, he did not make them leave.

The consensus of the Commission was that the seven-day limit still needed to apply, and the LTYC could include that information in their mailings.

Bartlett also said that traditionally the reserved days for boats were Thursday-Friday-Saturday, and Bokram said he would confirm those as the days for future consideration with the State.

It was also noted by Schiller that during the regatta, the sailors left gas/diesel containers on the docks, and may have filled their tanks using those containers. He asked whether or not there were rules about that or about smoking regulations.

It was suggested that the administration survey other marinas, because there were currently no regulations in place in Harbor Springs.

It was also noted that two or three small fuel spills occurred at Walstrom Marine recently. Bokram alerted Walstrom to the problem, and their procedures for fueling boats appears to have been corrected.

It was also noted that at least one trailer was left parked at the Harbormaster lot by a Regatta sailor. The trailer should have been towed. It was suggested that this regulation be communicated by the LTYC to the sailors in their pre-race information.

D. Open Forum

None.

V. Meeting Schedule

The next meeting of the Harbor Commission will be scheduled for Wednesday, September 15, at 4:00 p.m.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.