
Sitka Port and Harbors Commission Minutes

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 6:00PM

Sealing Cove Business Center

Port and Harbors Commission Members: Kevin Knox, Josh Arnold, Mary Ann Peterson, Melissa Greenhalgh, Eric Skousen, Michael Nurco, Brendan Jones
Matt Hunter (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Knox called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Kevin Knox, Mary Ann Peterson (telephonically at 6:25PM), Melissa Greenhalgh, Eric Skousen, Michael Nurco

Absent: Brendan Jones (excused), Josh Arnold (excused)

Assembly Liaison: Matthew Hunter (absent)

Staff: Harbormaster Stan Eliason, Deputy Harbormaster Chuck Hackett, Deputy Clerk Melissa Henshaw

III. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES

Chair Knox read Kevin Mulligan's email that stated to fix the seaplane float dock with the least amount of money and it read that the transient float was important.

Discussion occurred on Charles Yearwood's email to Harbormaster Eliason. He stated in the email that there was not a slip large enough to accommodate his boat and he cannot anchor out. The Harbor Department will work with him on his needs and to possibly dedicate a spot for him.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Mark Guillory was in support of the floatplane dock.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M - Greenhalgh/S - Skousen moved to approve the April 13, 2016 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. REPORTS

- 1) Harbormaster - Assistant Harbormaster Hackett told that there were 12 reserved yachts for the 2016 summer season and the need for water on the dock of the lightering facility. Harbormaster Eliason finalized the cruise ship schedule stating some vessels had moved to Old Sitka dock and told of the need to advertise the lightering facility.
- 2) City Staff - None.
- 3) Chair - Told of rate increase and \$100,000 raw fish tax revenues.
- 4) Other(s) - None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) Seaplane Float Dock Repairs

Harbormaster Eliason gave a presentation of the history, need for repairs, and two options for the Seaplane Float Dock stating that it was technically harbor infrastructure. He relayed he had been working on Federal funding for many years.

George Campbell was in support of the transient spot and the eight spots versus six and told of

economic benefits. Stonie Huffman told of low tide issues and that the back slips are not useful especially with regard to pad eight. Dave Gordon was in support of replacing the structure as it exists currently.

Discussion occurred of anchoring off of the dock which was determined not workable, the cost was for sleeving not driving new pilings, transient space, clarification of the transient space not being replaced, and further dialog with Forest Service that was needed.

General consensus of the audience members was that they were in support of Option A.

M – Skousen/S – Greenhalgh moved to recommend Option A to repair the seaplane float dock. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Dialog around a grant from the economic development fund took place.

M – Nurco/S – Skousen moved to recommend the Harbor Department apply to the economic development fund toward Option A of the Seaplane Float Dock. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1) Support from Property Tax Increase Earmarked for Harbors
This item was pulled from the agenda.

2) Commission Goals

Hall would like to see the Commission begin the agenda in September with moorage rates and have the item completed by November. Staff reminded that financial information was not available until October and they handed out a compiled *rates of moorage for a 45' vessel from around the state*. In the fall, staff would compile rates from around the state. Staff handed out the Sitka Harbor System Capital Improvements Projects based on a 6.2% yearly increase. The Commission brainstormed ideas. The following goals were set for when the Commission reconvenes in September:

- Moorage Rates
 - Including Liveaboard
 - Possible designations i.e., rates for different types of users
- State Funding
 - Capital improvement Plan changes
 - Preventative maintenance
- Short-Term Rental Use
- Boat Ramp at Crescent Harbor
- Large vessel accommodations
- City General Fund contribution to the Harbor Fund
- Revenue Generators
- Citizen Engagement

IX. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting would be held Wednesday, September 14, 2016.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no objection the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:58PM.

Attest:
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk