

**FALMOUTH HARBOR/WATERFRONT COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 10, 2016  
FALOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Roll Call:**

Present: Richard Craven, Paul Dobbins, Richard Garret, William Oliver, Emmanuel Kourinos, Harbormaster Alan Twombly, Assistant Harbormaster Kenneth Walberg, Kim Maxfield-Fearon, Steve Decrosta

Public: Brent Sullivan

**I Chairperson Comments**

Chairperson Garrett commented on what a fantastic summer it has been. All went well this year at the town landing. Peter Thornton has moved out of Falmouth, and is no longer on the committee. He commended the Harbormaster for the preparations for the hurricane (Matthew). Welcome to Steve Decrosta who is taking his place. He also apologized for the abrupt change of date for this meeting. The committee has unanimously recommended Brent Sullivan to take the place as representative to Handy Boat and is still waiting for the Town Council approval.

**II Review and Approve Minutes of the May 19, 2016 Meeting**

William Oliver made a motion to approve the minuets from the May 19 meeting, Paul Dobbins seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**III Public Comment**

None

**IV Harbormaster's Report**

Moorings

Total	1134 (2015 - 1118)
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Wait list

Resident	30 (2015 – 40)
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Nonresident	3 (2015 – 10)
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Still have the SHIP grant for the floats, but are still waiting for the money to be released. It could be this year or 2018 at the latest. The plan is to use the money to replace (almost) all of the floats and gangways. By 2018 all should be new.

Everything went well with the new boat. There was a lot of training on it and the department now has 4 certified operators for it. There was also joint training with the fire department.

The hurricane that was expected to hit the area did not. People were cooperative by taking care of their property.

The portable toilet enclosure is going to be closed down due to people depositing their dog waste in it. The town has purchased some plywood and boarded it up and public works will be pushing the floats up against it.

The online mooring program has changed companies for the coming year. The new company is named Mooring Info. The change was because the previous company was not keeping up with technology.

Maine Safe Beaches – This summer the beach at the Town Landing has been tested twice a week through Labor Day and the water tests were always within the safe swimming limits.

There was some discussion of Safe Water testing at the Town Landing. All the water tests were within the safe swimming limits. There was inquiry from the Conservation Committee of the Harbor Committee being involved in the testing.

There was discussion of why there were 2 days (6/29/16 and 7/13/16) that the levels spiked. Richard Garrett feels that the Harbor Committee should be involved in this program.

The harbormaster has already stated that they (harbor staff) would not be involved with this program.

Paul Dobbins mentioned 2 other groups that do water testing, Friends of Casco Bay and the Ocean Club at Falmouth High School.

## **V      Agenda Items**

### **A      Winter floats**

There has been a great deal of interest in winter floats. Paul Dobbins feels the matter should be studied more.

Barney Baker was the engineer that did the floats and Richie Garrett will contact him about possible winter floats.

There was concern about Long Island having access to get to the mainland. There is a commercial float available in case of emergency.

There was discussion on the safety / practicality of winter floats. It was decided that this wouldn't be for this winter and more research would need to be done in order to make an informed decision.

## B Recreational Fishing from Pier and Floats

There was discussion of limiting recreational fishing on the pier and floats. The harbormaster feels that the staff can manage those fishing during the day, but feels that the hours should be regulated and night fishing banned.

Richard Craven made a motion to limit fishing at the town landing to sunrise to sunset. Richie Garrett seconded – 2 votes in favor, motion did not pass.

The harbormaster suggested coming up with a compromise as this is a big problem at the landing.

It was suggested that signs be added as you approach the landing with the fishing rules and regulations.

Bill Oliver suggested that there be signs posted on the docks indicating fishing or not fishing.

Richard Garrett made a motion that fishing be permitted sunrise to sunset on all docks, and on the commercial float only sunset to sunrise on. Steve Decrosta/Richard Craven seconded – this motion passed unanimously.

## Dinghies

Richard Garrett brought up a discussion of dinghies. Currently there are permits for 90 dinghies between the resident and non-resident dinghies. Most years there are only 60-70 dinghies at a time. People buy them in case they need them, but a number of people don't use them.

After discussion, suggestions were made to dedicate the end float to town owned dinghies, reduce the number of dinghies and to raise the fee. With the raised fee, the town could buy another dinghy or two.

Richard Garrett made a motion to limit the number of dingy permits issued to 40 resident permits and to 20 non-resident permits. William Oliver seconded - motion passed unanimously.

Richard Garrett made a motion to increase the fee of dinghy permits \$100 for residents and to \$200 for non-residents. William Oliver seconded – motion passed 5 yes, 1 no.

**C      Trash Pick-Up at the Town Landing**

The problem of trash at the town landing was discussed and what to do about people leaving their trash. Currently there is a carry in carry out policy but it is not working. People are leaving trash including diapers and dog waste in and around the port-a-potty. Ideally having daily pick up would be the solution but it is cost prohibitive. This summer there will be a security camera aimed at the area in hopes to be able to catch and summons those who are creating the mess. No decision was made and the situation was tabled and staff will look into what the town can do to for services.

**D      Election of Officers**

Richard Craven made a motion to re-elect Richie Garrett as chairperson of the Harbor/Waterfront Committee. Manny Kourinos seconded the motion. Richie was re-elected unanimously.

**VI      Set Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Falmouth Harbor/Waterfront Committee is scheduled for May 18, 2017, 8:00 AM at the Falmouth Police Department.

**VII      Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Maxfield-Fearon on February 16, 2017.