

ESCANABA HARBOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
JANUARY MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2014: 5:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Ammel, Robert Buckbee, Henry Cipolla, Todd Hurley, Dave Pinozek

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Gravatt, Harbor Master
Cheryl Syers, Recreation Office Assistant

PUBLIC PRESENT: None

APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO: Meeting minutes of October 8, 2014. Motion to approve as written by Dave Pinozek, seconded by Robert Buckbee, unanimous.

ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

None

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Escanaba Municipal Marina Harbor Dredging Update.** Mr. Gravatt informed a total of 14,000 yards of sand were removed from the Escanaba Municipal Marina in November, 2013. 150' was dredged west of Pier III and there is now an average depth of 7'. The harbor mouth now has an average depth of 11'. The dredged sand was placed in front of and west of the Escanaba Municipal Beach house enhancing and enlarging the beach front.

2. **Escanaba Municipal Marina Dock Float Bid Update.** Mr. Gravatt informed all of the 35' docks were removed from the harbor last fall. The purpose for removing the docks was to inspect and determine why they were tipping dangerously. Structurally, the docks are made of steel and in very good condition. However, the styrofoam on the underside of the docks has deteriorated.

Mr. Gravatt advised a bid to provide forty-eight dock floats to repair the twelve (12) thirty-five foot (35') docks was prepared and sent in early December. Eight (8) proposals were sent with ten (10) received on January 7, 2014. The low bid was submitted by Pier Genius in the amount of \$11,929. Mr. Gravatt estimated an additional \$3,251 for strap steel, bolts, welding, and labor costs for installation bringing the total cost of the project to \$15,180. Funding for this project will come from the marina fund. Delivery of the floats is anticipated in mid-March with project completion by the start of the boating season. Mr. Gravatt informed by purchasing and installing the new dock floats, the docks will be functional for an additional thirty (30) years. Motion by Todd Hurley to accept the bid received from Pier Genius in the amount of \$11,929 to provide forty-eight (48) new dock floats, seconded by Henry Cipolla, unanimous.

Mr. Gravatt informed under the marina capital improvement plan, he anticipates hiring an engineer to evaluate the remaining docks.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Annual Meeting Schedule.** The Harbor Advisory Board committee members reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2014. Motion by Henry Cipolla to adopt the meeting schedule as proposed, seconded by Robert Buckbee, unanimous.
2. **Rules of Procedure.** The Harbor Advisory Board committee members reviewed the Committee Rules of Procedure. No questions were presented and no changes recommended.
3. **2014 Seasonal Slip Fees.** Mr. Gravatt informed the 2014 seasonal slip and transient rates were received from the Michigan State Waterways Commission. He informed the rates remain unchanged from the previous year. Mr. Gravatt proposed the board adopt Rate 7 seasonal slip fees for 2014 for the Escanaba Municipal Marina. Motion by Todd Hurley adopting Rate 7 of the Michigan State Waterways Commission 2014 seasonal fees, seconded by Henry Cipolla, unanimous.

Mr. Gravatt informed the Waterways Commission proposed a significant change for the 2014 season for transient slips. They propose to charge by the length of the slip, not the length of the vessel. Mr. Gravatt stated this will be problematic for the Escanaba Marina because we are a smaller marina and many transients travel from Wisconsin which does not have this same policy. The board concurred it could be problematic and would like transient fees to remain charged by length of vessel. Mr. Gravatt informed he will address this concern with Waterways.

4. **Lake Management Plan.** Mr. Gravatt presented a proposal from PLM to provide continued weed management with the Escanaba Municipal Marina. The proposal is for a low cost of \$8,310 and a high cost of not more than \$15,605 with no more than a possible 3% increase if for three years. The proposal includes application and permitting fees, but does not include a fall plant survey at a cost of \$750. Last year's payment to PLM came in under cost at \$6,231. Mr. Gravatt reminded the board the cost will be dependent upon the weather and weed growth. He informed the board the weed harvester was not utilized in 2013 and was used only for two weeks in 2012. He stated the marina pays the City an equipment fee of \$6,000 per year for the harvester. Mr. Gravatt recommended retaining the harvester for at least an additional two years. Motion by Robert Buckbee to accept a three-year contract with PLM as proposed, seconded by Dave Pinozek, unanimous.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Gravatt informed the Fish and Wildlife Management and the local Great Lakes Sports Fisherman Association requests permission to use the marina basin for the planting of 6,000-12,000 Chinook salmon fingerlings in early May, 2014. Motion to approve the request by Todd Hurley, seconded by Henry Cipolla, unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF COMMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board member Todd Hurley of Hurley Marine requested permission from the board for a promotional display in the Harbor Master's office of under water lights. The under water lights would also be made available for use by boater's at no cost to boaters or the City. Motion to approve by Henry Cipolla, seconded by Dave Pinozek, unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

Robert Buckbee motioned for adjournment, seconded by Dave Pinozek. The motion carried unanimously at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Gravatt, Harbor Master

Mark Ammel, Chairperson

Date