

ESCANABA HARBOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AUGUST MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2017: 5:00 PM
City Hall, Council Room, 410 Ludington Street, Escanaba, MI 49829

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 5:02 pm.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Gregg Bruff, Board members Marilyn Kinsey, Alex Sundstrom, Jaimee Tourangeau

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Patricia Baribeau, City Council Liaison

OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Gravatt, Harbor Master
Brooks Bougie, Recreation Office Assistant
Patricia Baribeau, City Council Liaison

PUBLIC PRESENT: Jim Hansen, Craig Woerpel

APPROVAL/CORRECTION(S) TO: Meeting minutes of April 11, 2017; motion to approve as written by Marilyn Kinsey, seconded by Alex Sundstrom, motion carried unanimous.

APPROVAL/ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

Adjustment of Agenda; New Business item number 4 moved up to item number 1.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Discuss the electrical shock issues at the marina and the upcoming requirements.** Jim Hansen on behalf of DNR Waterways spoke on the issue of electrical shock drowning. He stated that five years ago there was an incident in Traverse City where a young man dove off the end of the dock and hit a stray current in the water and the end result was the young man drowned because he had no movement in his limbs. Hansen stated that they have been pushing for several months to get the DNR onboard with the issue in regards to our own marina. Hansen said there have been a few minor incidents within our harbor and they want to bring all the harbors throughout the state up to speed on the issue of electrical shock. Hansen then reviewed an overview from Mike Evanoff the statewide Safety Officer of Michigan Parks and Recreation, in regards to his team's effort to educate employees, Grant-in-Aid communities and harbor guests about the dangers of ESD.

Hansen said that he tried to get Waterways to purchase all Grant-in-Aid communities clamp on voltage readers, but they wouldn't bite because of the \$300 cost. Harbor Master Gravatt stated that the marina can afford the \$300 for the purchase of the voltage reader. Hansen stated that the Waterways will be here in the beginning of June for a work session and stated that signage for electrical shock safety will be here in June sometime. Hansen stated that all marinas should have ground fault indicators put into place for safety.

Mr. Hansen then touched on bottom land leases and the DEQ's permitting process in regards to the leases. He also touched on the terms of the leases and how it will affect the marinas in the UP compared to the marinas in the Lower Peninsula.

Boardmember Kinsey asked Mr. Hansen about presenting a speech with the help of the Yacht Club in regards to electrical shock death. Hansen stated that it was already taken care of. Council Liaison Baribeau said she has to report this information to council about the electrical shock issue and asked how she should state it; Hansen stated this issue was prompted from the incident that happened in Traverse City.

- 2. Discuss the upcoming five year plan that needs to be in place with the city and the DNR Waterways.** Harbor Master Gravatt briefed the board on the status of the 5 year plan; he stated that he contacted the Michigan Waterways about the 5 year plan; he stated that what is needed is to put together an updated plan, and also mentioned that it is included in the 5 year recreation plan. Gravatt said that the new plan will take effect in 2018.

Mr. Gravatt stated that he will be getting bids on tearing down the L-Dock, and has a preliminary plan in place for 2018/2019 for this because the deadline for this year has already passed; 2020 would be looking into replacing pier 1; 2021 would be replacing pier 3 and finally adding a bathroom to the marina in 2022. Gravatt stated this is all a work in progress and will continue to update the board of progress of the 5 year plan.

- 3. Address the RV Parking at the marina.** Mr. Gravatt briefed the board on parking RV's at the marina; there were a few situations that brought up the current issue. He stated that the RV's can be parked as long as it is not being used for a living space and permanent. He then stated that he does not allow boats to park their trailers at the marina; he spoke on adjusting the contract for seasonal boaters if current rules were to change. Gravatt proposed a vote on the RV parking at the marina. The vote will be tabled for future consideration.
- 4. Discuss the possibility of kayak storage at the marina.** Mr. Gravatt stated that he has people approaching him all the time about storing their kayaks at the marina. He stated that he is considering building a kayak storage area and charging a fee to store your kayak. The kayak storage area would provide a safe and secure way to store your kayak on site as it would be locked at all times. The storage fees would increase funding for the marina to be used in other areas of need within the marina. Council Liaison Baribeau mentioned disseminating the information to the kayakers that your kayak could be stored at the marina but please don't kayak in the marina due the chance of the previously discussed electrical shock issue. Mr. Gravatt stated that he would build a storage area for approximately eight kayaks and go from there. A vote was brought up; boardmember Sundstrom motioned to approve the building of a kayak storage area, which was seconded by boardmember Tourangeau, the motion carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMITTEE MEMBER/STAFF COMMENT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Jaimee Tourangeau motioned for adjournment, seconded by Marilyn Kinsey. The motion carried unanimously at 5:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Gravatt, Harbor Master

Gregg Bruff, Chairperson

Date