

HARRISVILLE HARBOR COMMISSION
Regular Meeting October 22, 2010

Chairman Laatz called the regular meeting of the Harrisville Harbor Commission to order in the Harbor Building at 1:00 p.m. on October 22, 2010.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call found all seven commissioners present.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Arthur Laatz, Vice-Chairman Robert Sanderson, Secretary Robert Schemanske, Treasurer J. Michael Crick, Commissioners: Marion Tartaglia, Neal Gehring, and Daniel Bruske

GUESTS: NONE

ALSO PRESENT: Harbormaster Jerry Brown; Recording Secretary/Bookkeeper Jeannette Schultz and Steven Baksis.

Treasurer Crick presented the 2011 preliminary budget for discussion; adjustments; and final approval. Following discussion and minor adjustments, a balanced annual budget was agreed upon. MOTION: Tartaglia/Gehring to adopt the 2011 budget totaling \$271,320. Motion passed and budget was adopted.

Minutes of the Sept. 2, 2010 regular meeting and the Sept. 16, 2010 special meeting, having been emailed to each commissioner, were presented for approval. Minutes were reviewed. MOTION: Schemanske/Sanderson to approve minutes as presented. Motion passed and minutes were adopted.

Financial Reports:

September financial reports were reviewed. MOTION: Tartaglia/Schemanske to accept reports as presented. Motion carried. Reports were adopted and placed on file pending audit.

Harbormaster Report

Harbormaster Brown reported that:

He would recommend reevaluating the services needed before renewing our annual contract with Trugreen in 2011. There is a question as to whether the fertilizer service is actively helping. He suggested that we compare the area not being serviced with the area currently serviced by Trugreen. In addition, there was concern expressed that fertilizer run-off was supporting the growth of invasive grasses at the water's edge.

The harbor winterizing process is basically complete.

The Veeder Root machine is out of service. He has placed a repair order with the company. In the meantime, Brown is monitoring the fuel levels by sales, which are at a minimal now that the season has basically ended.

He presented for consideration a quote from EZ Energy Saver, which is a company that could provide a series of electrical capacitors for compressors on the docks. The company claims that it could save us between 10-30% of electricity usage. Our initial capital outlay would be approximately \$2,002.00. There is a 90-day guarantee. If we then decided it didn't meet our need, the company would refund \$1,196. Therefore, we would have an \$850 risk to our budget. We can compare our power bills (both usage and dollars) from Nov.; Dec. & Jan. of the prior year to analyze results of projected savings. Brown suggested that we make a decision soon in order to take advantage of the 90-day trial offer. MOTION: Schemanske/Crick to accept the 90-day trial offer. Discussion followed. Motion adopted.

He also suggested terminating the harbormaster's cell phone service through Verizon Wireless. There is no cell phone reception at the harbor. And, the minimal number of calls that he has received on the cell phone doesn't warrant the cost of the service. He suggested that a Tracfone (or equivalent product) be used, if actually needed at all. It was decided to accept his recommendation.

The pontoon boat is now stored and is in good condition. He recommends scrapping the remains of the old boat, which could generate a few dollars as scrap iron. Chairman Laatz will send a thank you to Warren MacNeil, who donated the new pontoon boat.

A new seasonal boater list will be compiled for billing/notice purposes.

He suggested holding off on a decision to purchase a new computer program for next year. He believes that our current program works very well.

We are in the process of negotiating a workable situation with the local Boy Scouts (SeaScouts), who have requested a dock next year. They need a place to meet and dock their boat. It could be a community outreach effort for us.

Finally, he plans to put a decorated Christmas tree in the harbor building in December.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Laatz reported that a representative at the Waterways Commission has agreed to provide us with an application for a possible grant of up to \$100,000 for dock repair. We may have availability of some funds for dock repair. He will keep us informed.

A letter has been sent to John Bernard to schedule dredging in the Spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

It is with much regret that the Commission accepted the resignation of Robert J. Sanderson, Jr., who has served on the Commission for the past six years. Bob is currently serving as the Vice Chair and has provided invaluable service to the Harbor. His resignation will be effective as of December 31, 2010. Due notice will be taken to advertise the vacancy on the Board.

Laatz reported that the new Verio website transition seems to be working well. And, webcam transition is in progress.

Steve Baksis informed the commission that he has been working with Brown on the winterization process and taking notes on various aspects of operations. He is planning to compile a detailed harbormaster job description.

Election of Officers:

MOTION: Tartaglia/Crick to retain the current officers, with the exception of Sanderson, for another year. Motion passed.

MOTION: Schemanske/Gehring to elect Bruske to replace Sanderson as Vice Chair for the coming year. Motion passed. Bruske accepted the position.

Laatz announced that the committees will remain the same for another year, with Bruske to replace Sanderson on the Finance Committee; and the new member to serve on the Operations Committee.

Announcement:

Brown suggested having a small Christmas party at the harbor in December. Date to be decided.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the Harbor at 7 p.m. on January 6, 2011. There will be **NO MEETING IN DECEMBER.**

Adjournment: MOTION: Crick/Sanderson to adjourn at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

N. Jeannette Schultz
Recording Secretary