

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
Monday June 13, 2016, 7:00 P.M.
City Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present

Jerry Baganz, Jerry Gruen, Sue Knauer, Bill Driscoll, Dan Herlache, and Jordan Schwanz

Others Present

City Administrator Mark Grams

Harbor Master Dennis Cherny

Mayor Tom Mlada

Assistant Harbormaster Lisa Rathke (Secretary)

1. Roll Call: (Absent: Dave Larson)

2. Election Of Chairman And Vice Chairman

Member Gruen opened nominations for Vice Chairman. **Sue Knauer nominated Dan Herlache and Jerry Baganz seconded the nomination. Nominations were closed. Motion Carried.** Member Gruen opened nominations for Chairman. **Jerry Baganz nominated the current Chair, Jerry Gruen and Dan Herlache seconded the nomination. Nominations were closed. Motion Carried.**

3. Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting

Bill Driscoll made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion Carried.

4. Monthly Financial Report

City Administrator Grams said that the May numbers don't look bad. Fishing and boating have picked up. Harbormaster Cherny gave some updated numbers for launches and transients.

5. Update On 2016 Slip Rentals

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that we started the season with more than 50 slips open and as of today, there are only 24 slips open in the Main Marina with several of those on pier 4 hopefully returning later in the season. There are still 11 slips open in the North slip. So we have a total of 35 slips open at the present time.

6. Approve Hiring Seasonal Employees

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that all the employees listed are previous employees. **Bill Driscoll made a motion to approve the list of seasonal employees and Jerry Baganz seconded. Motion Carried.**

7. Harbormaster's Report

Harbormaster Cherny gave a quick update on the break wall. He showed pictures of the new concrete that was poured as well as how well they are reinforcing that concrete with rebar and wire mesh. Member Gruen said he gives a lot of credit to the Mayor and Member Driscoll for taking the issue of the break wall on and getting it done.

Harbormaster Cherny said that several people, after seeing the PWMS Design Committee's parking design proposals for the marina, have been inquiring about the fire pit. He said that the tenants were so excited about the possibility of a fire pit, that he built one and should have it up and running soon!

Pirates Festival was a huge success! It brought in transient boats from all over. It was a good start to the boating and festival season.

The Marina held their annual open house in correspondence with "National Marina Day" on June 11th from 11am to 2pm. Free Bernie's Meats hot dogs, chips, and soda were served. Many tenants and visitors stopped in to celebrate with us!

Harbormaster Cherny also mentioned that the water levels are still on the increase. He expects them to go up another 3-4 inches by August which is the normal for this time of year.

8. Marina Tenants' Comments

Marina Tenant Representative Paul Markworth mentioned that the tenants still have concerns about the wakes being caused by other boaters and they were hoping that the marina could continue looking into it. Harbormaster Cherny said that he will continue to monitor it. Issuing a couple of citations and the word will get out said Harbormaster Cherny.

9. Any Other Business That May Come Properly Before The Commission

Mayor Mlada was present to formally welcome Jordan Schwanz (who replaced member Tony Matera) as a new member to the Harbor Commission and wanted to also thank Tony Matera for his years of dedication and service to the Harbor Commission. Mayor Mlada thought Jordan brought the best of different worlds to the commission. He is a local business man as well as a partner in a charter boat at the marina.

Mayor Mlada also wanted to inform the commission about an email that he had received from The Lake Michigan Committee stating that they will be reducing the stocking of Chinook Salmon in Lake Michigan by over 60% beginning in the spring of 2017 in an effort to help stabilize the alewife population. Senator Stroebel had sent out an update and press release expressing his concern and the impact this decision will have on the fishing population and the fishing industry specifically out of Port Washington. There will be three upcoming meetings held regarding this matter. Mayor Mlada forwarded the information to all the Harbor Commission members.

Mayor Mlada also informed the commission that the city is working on pedestrian signage to promote walkability throughout the downtown.

Dale Allen, Charter Fisherman and city business owner, asked Mayor Mlada how he came up with the decision to appoint Member Schwanz to the board. Mr. Allen said that he, or any charter captain, has been trying to get on the Harbor Commission for the last five years, and now there was an opening and the Harbor Commission nor Harbormaster Dennis Cherny were consulted on who they recommend be appointed to the Harbor Commission. Mr. Allen has been attending meetings for the last several years as a representative of the Charter Captain's Association and he feels slighted. Mayor Mlada said that was not his intention. He wanted to get Member Schwanz more engaged and felt that this was a great opportunity to do that as he brings a lot of different worlds to the table. Mayor Mlada suggested that Dale Allen be an advisor to the Harbor Commission if that is something that the commission would be interested in.

10. Adjournment

Bill Driscoll made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion Carried.