

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
HARBOR COMMISSION MEETING
Monday July 10, 2023, 7:00 P.M.
Harborview Lower-Level Meeting Room

Members Present

Sue Knauer, Gerald Gruen, Chad Biersach, Jordan Schwanz, Mike Gasper, and Bill Driscoll,

Others Present

Harbormaster Dennis Cherny

Secretary Lisa Rathke

Kristyn Halbig Ziehm, Ozaukee Press

Dale Allen, Charter Captain

1. **Roll Call: (Absent: Tim Osowski)**

2. **Approve Minutes Of Previous Meeting**

Bill Driscoll made a motion to approve minutes and Sue Knauer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Public Comments/ Appearances *Your comments are welcome. Please limit comments to (3) minutes.***

No public comments.

4. **Monthly Financial Report**

Secretary Rathke gave an update on the financial report stating that the treasurer was unable to get the Dockwa numbers in for the month of June, transient revenue as of this morning is about \$53,000. The Parking Fines revenue category needs to be updated with the number \$2,825. Under expenditures, there are still employee benefits and wages that need to be brought up to date as well. Everything is looking good for the season up to this point.

5. **Preparation of 2024 Budget**

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that he would like the Harbor Commission members to look over the slip fee and transient rates handout in preparation of the next meeting in order to make a recommendation on the 2024 Slip Fee and Transient rates. Member Gasper feels that our pricing isn't in line for the 30' slips and 45' slips, which happens when you increase at a constant rate and thinks it may be the time to think of a differential for different sizes in the future.

6. **Harbor Commission Charter Quarterly Report**

Harbormaster Cherny gave the quarterly update on the Harbor Commission Charter. He mentioned that the new fuel tanks opened on June 30th, and the project completion is expected by the end of July.

Pier 5 Dredging was completed on December 16th and the slips were installed and ready to rent to tenants by May 25th.

The Marina is well on its way to achieving the Elite Status from Marinas.com based on customer reviews. A minimum of (10) 5-Star reviews are needed to receive that status and to date, the Marina has more than (20) 5-Star reviews.

The Marina continues to follow best practices to maintain our Wisconsin Clean Marina status. The marina is currently looking into a device that will clean up debris in the Marina.

The Marina is working with Tourism to get a cruise ship to stop in Port Washington in the future in order to maintain our commercial port status.

The Marina continues to send out surveys to transients upon departure and will send out a survey to tenants as well.

7. **Harbormaster's Report**

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that he installed signs for (8) parking spaces for Charter Boat use only.

The Disabled Vets Outing was held last week, the first time since Covid, with 100 plus Vets going out on boats.

There are 50 boats registered for the Double Handed Sailboat Race coming in this Thursday.

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that Anne Hartley, a female boater with a 36' Trawler, who is doing the Great Loop on her own, stopped in the Marina for fuel today.

8. Forthcoming Events

Harbormaster Cherny mentioned that the following events are coming up in the next couple of months:

Fish Days will be a (3) day event to be held on July 13-15th. The Marina will be partnering with the Yacht Club and will put a float in the Fish Day Parade.

National Marina Day will be held on July 22nd

The Chicago Mac Race starts on July 22nd

Lion's Fest will be held on July 28-30th

Clipper Cup Sailboat Race from Muskegon Michigan to Port Washington Marina will be on August 11th

Venetian Fest and the Venetian Lighted Boat Parade will be held on Sunday September 3rd of Labor Day weekend.

9. Marina Tenants' Comments

Marina Tenant Representative Stacey Berg mentioned that the tenants will be holding their First Annual Marina Wide Rummage sale during the National Marina Day event on July 22nd. She mentioned that the Child's Wish outing was attended by 70 people this year with tenants and guests taking families out boating and fishing and a party was put on by the Yacht Club.

Stacey also mentioned that getting the Edelweiss here might be a thought for a cruise ship. Maybe they would come for a weekend and take people out for a cruise. Member Driscoll agrees and feels that the City needs to pay attention to and make sure that we continue to keep our WCPA status. Member Gasper mentioned that we need to ask ourselves, what does the city need to provide to attract these cruise ships to our harbor.

10. Adjournment

Bill Driscoll made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm and Chad Biersach seconded. Motion Carried unanimously.