

Table of Contents

Agenda August 11 2010 2

Hc Min 08 11 10 4

August 11, 2010

AGENDA:

Reading of Notice of Meeting
Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence
Roll Call
Approval of Minutes from June 9, 2010

Commissioners' Reports

Old Business

Letter regarding Rich Hoynes' resignation
Letter sent to commercial captains
Slip rental report

New Business

Transient slips 4 year comparison
Survey of commercial rates
Gate for Charter Boat dock

Public Comments

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Koplisch, Secretary

ENCLOSURES:

Minutes from June 9, 2010
Letter to Mayor & Council
Transient rate comparison
Commercial rate survey
Slip rental excel report
Letter to commercial captains

HARBOR COMMISSION MINUTES
August 11, 2010

A regular meeting of the Harbor Commission of the Borough of Belmar was held on the above date at 7:30 P.M. in the Municipal Building.

Present: Michael Rothenberg, Tom Volker, Matt Doherty, Paul DeSantis, Claire Deicke, and Chris Dillon

Also Present: Capt. Andrew Huisman, Belmar Police Dept.

The Secretary stated that adequate notice of the meetings of the Harbor Commission of the Borough of Belmar was sent by e-mail on December 23, 2009 to our official newspaper, the Coast Star and by posting a copy of said notice at the Municipal Building.

Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was observed

Roll Call

A motion was requested for approval of the minutes from the June 6, 2010 which was made by Commissioner Volker and seconded by Commissioner Deicke, Chairman DeSantis and Commissioner Doherty abstained.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

Commissioner Deicke reported that the Borough Council went beyond the recommendation of this Commission in terms of fuel rates. The Commission had recommended a five cent per gallon increase and the Council voted on a seven cent increase. The Commercial rates increased from thirty to thirty seven cents per gallon and the private rate went from thirty five to forty two cents per gallon. Commissioner Deicke was asked if the fuel grade was the same as it had been in the past. She had spoken to Robbin about this and confirmed that it is the same grade.

The CAFRA permit has been approved for several marina projects. These include replacing the Harbormaster building with a building which will house shops, the restaurant, the Ninth Ave. pier development and seasonal restaurant, a comfort facility and a miniature golf course. They were all on the permit and all have been approved. We also received CAFRA approval from the I-Boat Grant which will fund the bulkhead and ramp. The project will be reviewed by the Army Corp. of Engineers.

Commissioner Deicke went on to report that she had received a call from a commercial boat owner who had reported a fuel theft and he had filed a report with the police. He was also concerned about the irresponsible behavior of others at the marina

specifically language, littering, etc. To solve these issues she informed the gentleman that we would take these concerns very seriously. Presently, Chief Palmisano and members of his staff have been meeting with a security company called Seiman and have visited sites where this system is utilized. While the system will be installed throughout the community, the main focus will be at the marina. Also, Marty Westerfield is looking into re-installing the gate which was on the charter boat dock. However, this would not solve the problem if the main culprits were approaching from the water side. As for the fuel theft, the Chief reported that there were fuel thefts in the Atlantic Highlands area as well.

Chairman DeSantis questioned Commissioner Deicke about the Comfort Station whether it would have rest rooms, showers, laundry, etc. She told him that it will be similar the previous plans that the Commission had seen, but not as large as the previous plans. It has been scaled down a bit. She was also questioned if there would be public restrooms as well and there will be. It took 18 months to get the CAFRA permits but things are moving right along.

Also present at the meeting was Capt. Andrew Huisman from the Belmar Police Department. Commissioner Deicke asked him if he could comment on the security system for the Commission. We currently have one grant but it is not enough to cover all the equipment that we need. They have been meeting with security equipment sales representatives who are offering a new grant with their equipment. We are moving forward on it and in the next month or so we should have more feedback from them. Commissioner Dillon questioned what this includes-- cameras, controllers, screens, etc. The current system that we have is not adequate to cover all of our needs. When questioned whether this was a Homeland Security Grant, Capt. Huisman replied that the grant that we have not it is a State School Grant in cooperation with the school. The one that they are working on is a Homeland Security Grant. When asked about a time line he replied that grants take a long time.

Commissioner Volker asked about the gate to the charter boat dock. He was informed that it was to be picked up and installed the following week. It was out being welded and would be installed when it is ready. There were comments about the lock on the gate and how the charter boat captains will be notified and how often the combination would be changed. The most important thing about the combination lock that is being installed is to keep it locked at night and when there is nobody on the dock. There was some discussion about connecting J dock and the two transient docks to the security system that we presently use for the private section of the marina. We will need to install electric and additional equipment, probably in the new comfort station, because it is too great of a distance from the marina office to work properly.

Commissioner Volker also asked about installing a fish cleaning station by the Charter Boat dock area, since they have been informed they cannot have fish tables on the dock. He was told that Robbin will address the matter of fish cleaning tables with the commercial captains when she meets with them about the rates for the next few years.

Commissioner Doherty reported that he had toured a transient boat that had been here earlier this summer. It was a very impressive 89 foot catamaran built in New Zealand. Some of the feedback they got from the captain, which he feels is very useful, was that they originally tried to go into Manasquan Inlet and dock at Point Pleasant but there was no place that could accommodate them so they came up here. They stayed here for a week. One of the things that they mentioned was there is no wireless internet at our harbor. This is a complaint that has been brought up quite frequently from transient boat owners. This is a matter we need to address. Maybe installing it in the comfort station and plan it for the new comfort station.

Old Business

Included in the Commissioners packets was a letter Diane had written to the Mayor and Council, we needed something in writing to be presented to the Mayor and Council so that Richard Hoynes could be replaced. His term expires in 2012.

Also provided to the Commission was the letter sent to the commercial captains regarding the proper disposal of fish, fish racks and cutting tables. This was included just so the Commissioners were aware of the situation so they could address any complaints. Once again, it was mentioned that Robbin will address this matter with the commercial captains when she speaks with them about the rates.

The commissioners were also provided with reports on slip rentals and a transient 4 year comparison.

New Business

At this time Chairman DeSantis proposed that we adjourn for a few minutes to a closed session to regarding the commercial rates. Upon return to the open meeting Chairman DeSantis informed that what the Commission decided was to table a decision on the new rates until they get some additional information.

Public Comments

George Steller from the Teri Jean explained that the commercial fisherman were being blamed for the improper disposal of bluefish. He brought a printout of Belmar's boundaries in the river which includes areas over by Shark River Hill and the North Channel. He also brought with him a copy of the size requirements and went on to explain to the Commission that bluefish have no minimum, there is no closed season and the limit for the catch is 15 per person. Bluefish are the only species that can be filleted, by everyone, including charter boats, out at sea. So there is no reason for the charter boats to bring bluefish in. He also mentioned that it is not just racks it is whole bluefish that need to be removed. Chairman DeSantis explained that the letter received by the commercial owners did not go through the Harbor Commission it was sent to them by Robbin Kirk and if there are any issues with that letter they must be addressed by her or

the Mayor and Council. This matter will be discussed with Robbin when she meets with the commercial captains regarding rates.

Another issue that George mentioned was the sign above the top of the gate (the "J dock" sign) he had previously requested that it be removed and replaced with a sign "Charter Boats". People like to come down and look at the boats and they don't know that J dock is the Charter Boat dock. This issue will be brought up with DPW. He also asked with the gate being reinstalled if there is somewhere that we can put flyers for people to get information about the boats.

Next to address the Commission was Tommy Joseph from Rightaway II. He told them he is docked in the first slip on J dock and that seems to be the place where the fish/garbage accumulates. Many days he comes down and has to grab a gaff and a garbage bag and clean up the mess so that his customers are not subjected to the mess and smell. He also said that the reason it has not been a problem recently is because they have not been catching bluefish lately. Commissioner Rothenberg mentioned that once the security cameras are in it will be easier to find out who is dumping these fish.

Nick Caruso from the Ol'Salty II spoke next. He said it is their policy when they take out charters to ask the charter how many fish they want so as to not kill any more fish that necessary. He said the individuals who are bringing the whole fish back to the dock are the people who sell fish at the dock. He said he witnessed someone driving up and dumping a cooler of dead fish when he was fueling his boat and had called the office to report this.

Nick also brought up the fact that with the gate installed it would be advantageous to have somewhere to put their flyers. A suggestion was made to look into the plastic ones like the realtors use, the ones that have a lid, this way they wouldn't get wet and/or blown around.

With there being no further public comments Chairman DeSantis made a motion to adjourn this meeting which was seconded by Commissioner Deicke, with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Koplisch, Harbor Commission Secretary