

Minutes
Bar Harbor Cruise Ship Committee
January 11, 2016
Council Chambers – Municipal Building
93 Cottage Street
12:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Eben Salvatore called the meeting to order at 12:30 P.M.

Members present: Eben Salvatore, Chair, James Collier, Vice Chair; Amy Powers, Member, Anne Greenlee, Member, Jeff Dobbs, Member, Paul Paradis, Member, Sandy McFarland, Member; Charlie Phippen, Member; Jim Willis, Member; John Kelly, Member; Ken Smith, Member; Clare Bingham, Member; Lois Maltais; Melanie Graten, and Robert Osborne, Secretary.

Also present: Cornell Knight, Town Manager; Basil Eleftheriou, Jr.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 10, 2015

Mr. Paradis moved to approve the October 15, 2015 minutes as presented. Mr. Phippen seconded the motion, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the motion.

III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Paradis moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mr. Dobbs seconded the motion, and the Committee voted unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. STAFF REPORTS

A. Ferry Terminal Property Update

Cornell Knight told the committee there is a three year lease with an option to buy. He indicated that the state would be requesting an amendment to the Land Use Ordinance that will specify cruise ship operations. He clarified that the state was leasing the facility and that the payments would go toward the purchase price of the facility.

V. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Cottage Street Design Plan budget request.

Basil Eleftheriou, Jr. spoke about the request to the Committee. He talked about the great projects that the Town has taken on in the past such as Village Green, Agamont Park, and Main Street improvements. He noted the fine work that had been done by private developer on West Street. He indicated that Cottage Street functions as the primary access that visitors have when visiting the Town. He noted that the condition of the street and sidewalk and overhead wiring is in poor condition and that the area would be beautiful with modifications that would not distract from the fine buildings of Cottage Street. He noted that the Planning Board had reviewed the Comprehensive Plan and the Downtown Master Plan and that this work is called for in those documents. The Planning Board made a recommendation to the Council that they proceed with the improvements that the Comprehensive Plan calls for on Cottage Street. What is recommended is that there be \$24,000 funding for a design and cost analysis for the full length of Cottage Street for streetscape improvements.

The Committee discussed how the project would be funded beyond the study and no funding source has been identified yet.

The Committee discussed the relationship of the Route 3 project and the Cottage Street project.

Member Paradis made a motion to allocate \$24,000 of Cruise Ship funds to this request. Member Dobbs seconded the motion.

After some discussion the motion was called.

The Committee voted 12 in favor and one against the motion.

B. Acceptance of “Bar Harbor Cruise Ship Monitoring Report 2015”.

Chair Salvatore asked if the Committee had an opportunity to fully review the report? Member Paradis made a motion to accept the report. Member Phippen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

C. Acadia National Park Transportation Study.

John Kelly discussed the timeline for the Acadia National Park Transportation Study and provided the committee with a handout in that regard. He described the methodology going forward. Member Powers requested that the Park provide advance notice of meetings for stake holders.

D. Budget recommendations.

The Committee discussed having Todd Gabe of the University of Maine conduct an economic impact study with students. He will attend a future meeting and develop a proposal. The concept is that it would be similar to the scope of the prior study. The work could be conducted in the spring and summer.

Member Dobbs moved to make available up to \$3,000 for a study on demographic spending, average spending per cruise passenger, merchant discussions.

After some more discussion Member Dobbs withdrew his motion.

E. Cruise Ship Committee 2015 Annual Report to Town Council.

At the prior meeting Eben passed out a draft list of items that he would suggest be considered during the annual review of the 2015 season. It was suggested that the list would be discussed at the next meeting. The Committee discussed the list provided in the packet. Grant Park not done. Lost ship days. Ferry terminal implementation. Sidewalk reconstruction. \$24,000 for Cottage Street plan. Acadia Park update. Final report on Cruise Symposium.

After some discussion on these and other items Member Paradis moved that Eben proceed with the report to Council covering the items as discussed. Member Phippen seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

VI. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

It was suggested that the University of Maine proposal be placed on the March 10, 2016 agenda.

VII. SET NEXT MEETING TIME, DATE AND PLACE

The next meeting was set for Thursday March 10, 2016 at 12:30 PM. in the Council Chambers.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Phippen moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1:50 pm and Mr. Dobbs seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Signed as approved:



3/10/16

**Robert Osborne, Secretary
Cruise Ship Committee, Town of Bar Harbor**

Date