

Minutes

Bar Harbor Cruise Ship Committee

Meeting of Thursday July 18, 2019 at 1:00 PM

Bar Harbor Municipal Building — Council Chambers

Attendance:

Chairperson, Eben Salvatore and committee members Martha Searchfield, Stephen Coston (Town Councilor), Ken Smith, Skip (Prentice) Strong, Jeff Dobbs (Town Councilor), Katie DeGrass, Sandy McFarland, Sarah Flink, and Amy Powers.

Jim Willis (Police Chief for the Towns of Bar Harbor and Mount Desert) arrived at 1:29 PM during item VII.b while Jeff Dobbs left promptly after to tend to his boat at low tide.

Both Greg Gordon and Charlie Phippen were excused.

Councilor Hochman attended the meeting as a member of the public.

City staff present — Manager Knight and Planning Director Gagnon.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Salvatore called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM.

Manager Knight explained, per the opinion of Town Attorney, that Cruise Ship Committee members that are not registered to vote in Bar Harbor can vote until their term on the committee expires.

It was remarked that Ms. Searchfield is still a member of the committee serving as representative of the Chamber of Commerce.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (May 16, 2019)

Mr. Smith made a motion to adopt the minutes from the May 16, 2019 meeting. Ms. Searchfield seconded the motion. There was neither discussion nor any suggested corrections, and Chairman Salvatore then called for a vote. The motion carried unanimously (10-0).

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. O'Connell asked if the committee would be addressing air emission. He said that cruise ships emits dark clouds and he is concerned about what is coming out of the smoke stacks. He asks if the cruise ships are violating the downtown idling code.

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Dobbs made a motion to adopt the agenda as prepared. Ms. Searchfield seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (10-0).

V. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Dobbs nominated Mr. Salvatore as Chair. Chairman Salvatore closed nomination. Mr. Dobbs moved to elect Mr. Salvatore as chair with Mr. Smith as second. The vote was unanimous (10-0).

Mr. Dobbs nominated Ms. Searchfield as Vice-chair. Chairman Salvatore closed nomination. Mr. Dobbs moved to elect Ms. Searchfield as Vice-chair with Mr. McFarland as second. The vote was unanimous (10-0).

VI. STAFF REPORTS

None

VII. REGULAR BUSINESS

a. MDEP vessel air emissions study

Ms. Powers explained that the Maine DEP would be doing a statewide vessel emission study - revising the 2005 vessel air emission study. A draft report is expected in early fall and a final report by January 2020.

Ms. Flink explained that the Victoria Ship Terminal Authority in British Columbia (CAN) did a similar study and that she will share the results. There were no difference in air quality found between ship and non-ship days.

b. Shipping lane extension update

Mr. Strong explained that U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Matthew Odom, Northern New England's waterways management division chief, is working on pulling information together to extend the shipping lanes 10 miles out to sea. The information will soon be sent to NOAA. This will protect fishing gear. This is taking place prior to being "officialized" by NOAA. Refer to attachment.

Mr. Willis joined the meeting.

Mr. Dobbs left the meeting.

c. Review Ground Transportation on Cruise Ship days in metered areas

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

d. CLIA Report

Chairman Salvatore explained that this item would be on the next agenda, as the committee does not have the CLIA report.

e. Finding from Professor Gabe's Study

Ms. Powers explained that this report should be ready at the end of August.

f. Other

Mr. Strong reported that he lost one pilot.

Ms. Flink commented on an upcoming event in Portland (CC&A 2020). Also that they are working on a statewide cruise ship scheduling platform called "Port Call." She mentioned that Harbor Master Phippen would be trying it. She indicated that they are looking at adding a feature to manage passenger count.

Ms. Flink and CLIA are working with local schools and MMA on programming for people interested in getting into the maritime field.

Chairman Salvatore explained that he is working with AT&T to angle towers to provide better service to the locals.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. O'Connell spoke about passenger count and expressed concerns about turbidity.

Ms. Trautwein asked for clarification regarding the scheduling platform.

Ms. Dancy asked who is CLIA?

IX. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

CLIA Report and Gabe's Study


X. SET MEETING DATE AND TIME

August 15 at 1:00 PM

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McFarland made a motion that the committee adjourn the meeting. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (10-0).

Minutes approved by the Cruise Ship Committee on August 15, 2019



Michele Gagnon Secretary

Aug. 29, 2019

Date