

**Minutes**  
**Bar Harbor Cruise Ship Committee**  
**Thursday, October 18, 2018**  
**1:00 P.M.**  
**Council Chambers – Municipal Building**  
**93 Cottage Street**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

*The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.*

*Members present: Eben Salvatore, Chair; Sandy McFarland, Member; Ken Smith, Member; Martha Searchfield, Vice Chair; Janna Richards, Secretary; Stephen Coston, Member; Katy DeGrass, Member; Jim Willis, Member; Amy Powers, Member; Skip Strong, Member; Sarah Flink, Member; Jeff Dobbs, Member; Clare Bingham, Member (arriving at 1:20pm); and Charlie Phippen, Member.*

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. August 23, 2018**

*Mr. Smith moved to approve the minutes of August 23, 2018 as prepared. Mr. Dobbs seconded the motion and the Committee voted 13-0 to approve the motion.*

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

*There was none.*

**IV. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

*Mr. Phippen moved to adopt the agenda as prepared. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the Committee voted 13-0 to approve the motion.*

**V. STAFF REPORTS**

*Mr. Phippen provided a cruise ship count and passenger count update for the remainder of the 2018 season and for the upcoming 2019, 2020, and 2021 seasons. He mentioned that the 2018 season would be at a record level with 160 ships booking to date (out of which 12 small ships and 8 large ships had canceled), if they all were to arrive as scheduled. It was noted that the budget factors in cruise ship cancelations and that cancelations were below average in 2018.*

*Police Chief Willis noted that he had nothing new to report. Mr. Dobbs inquired if there could be a discussion at a later date about the location of the information kiosk near the pier.*

*Mr. Knight reported that the Council had approved the expansion of the Harbor Committee and added that their role would be to develop a plan for 121 Eden Street (the*

*ferry terminal property). He stated that the Council had also approved the lease with Bay Ferries that would operate out of 121 Eden Street.*

*Mr. Strong provided an update about the breakwater evaluation, reporting that the breakwater had been surveyed by the Army Corp of Engineers. The results of the survey and the evaluation have not been provided as of yet.*

## **VI. REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **a. Breakwater Evaluation Update**

*Mr. Strong provided an update about the breakwater evaluation, reporting that the breakwater had been surveyed by the Army Corp of Engineers. The results of the survey and the evaluation have not been provided as of yet.*

### **b. Royal Caribbean Line Update**

*During the August 23, 2018 meeting Mr. Phippen had reported that the Royal Caribbean Line did not have bookings for the 2020 season. Mr. Phippen updated the Committee that since that meeting, Royal Caribbean had requested approximately 30 dates and that he was able to accommodate all but approximately 6 of their requests. He also reported that Anthem of the Seas would no longer be coming to Bar Harbor after 2019.*

### **c. Chair update on Council feedback of port fee increase**

*Mr. Salvatore explained that he had attended the October 2, 2018 Council Meeting to report to the Council that the Committee recommends that the Council not act on the passenger fee increase of \$1.00. He also noted that the Cruise Lines International Association had sent a letter to the Town Manager and Council stating that they would like to have an open dialogue with the Town about fee increases.*

*Although not on the agenda, Ms. Powers asked Ms. Flink to provide a passenger survey update. Ms. Flink reported that the survey was wrapping up and that the results would be ready in January.*

## **VII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

*Ms. Trautwein offered suggestions for future passenger surveys, including making the survey takers more visible and allowing for passengers to turn in their completed surveys on the ship. Ms. Flink responded that it is purposeful that the survey takers are discrete and that they have been able to get a representative survey sample.*

*Mr. Jeff Dobbs provided an update from the Village Improvement Association, of which he is a member, noting that cruise ship funds were allocated toward Grant Park and Harbor Park. Ms. Power suggested a plaque be placed at parks/improvement projects to commemorate funders, which would include the cruise lines.*

*Mr. Phippen noted that a radio station meteorologist had reported the weather from one of the boats conducting water quality testing and that utilizing public forums such as that could be a good way of getting information out to the public. It was also confirmed that the water quality testing is done by the MDI Bio Lab under the direction of Jane Disney.*

*Ms. Flink offered that the Cruise Canada end of the season debrief is to be held on November 13, 2018 in Halifax and that the Cruise Maine end of the season meeting is to be held on November 15, 2018 in August, and that members of the Committee were invited to both.*

**VIII. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

- a. Breakwater Update
- b. Chamber Meeting (regarding in-town drop-offs) Update
- c. Draft Budget Review

**IX. SET NEXT MEETING TIME, DATE AND PLACE**

*November 15, 2018 at 1:00 PM.*

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

*Mr. Phippen moved to adjourn at 1:32 PM. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the Committee voted 14-0 to approve the motion.*

*Signed as approved:*



**Angela Chamberlain, Secretary  
Cruise Ship Committee, Town of Bar Harbor**

**11/15/18  
Date**