

Bar Harbor Ferry Terminal Property
Berthing committee
October 23, 2017
Meeting Notes

Attendees: Ted Koffman, Scott Hammond, Kristi Bond, Martha Searchfield, Michael Good, John Kelly, Tom St. Germain, Darron Collins

Finance category should be considerably higher. Suggestions to the weightings were offered. Committee members wanted to also make their opinions about the berthing option clear.

The town would need to revise its policy around justifying charging cruising passengers. The committee report should acknowledge that.

Carol Chappell is researching fee schedules for towns in New England that she will share with the committee. The fees will vary depending on whether it is privately run.

Concern was expressed about the impact on COA. It could be much more difficult to attract the caliber of students coming to COA. "Place" is one of the three reasons students list for coming to the college.

Tom St. Germain will run the numbers based on a 180,000 passenger limit. Need to address long-term maintenance costs and operations.

Ted has a call into the water quality department of the DEP about impacts from berthing vs. anchoring. He talked to a master mariner who said there was not much difference between berthing and anchoring from an environmental perspective (except for sound and visual impacts).

Public Comment Session:

- Looking at Chamber and National Park initiatives on environmental sustainability, it is clear that support eco-tourism. Will cruise ships have a future given that millennials are more concerned about environmental impacts and may not choose cruise ship vacations?
- Maine has more lax discharge rules for cruise ships than in some other places. Some of the older ships also have serious air emissions.
- Cruise ships have big lobby operations to fight rules they don't like.
- At \$20 a head for berthing the town would still be behind.
- Engines are running at anchor or berth so air pollution would be worse on land because of proximity to the ships.
- Chemicals on hulls leach into the water.
- Please share paper on sulfur emissions which shows emissions would be worse on land with berthing.

Committee discussions resumed:

Need to add impacts to historic properties and light pollution.

Tom Crikelair's transportation plan should be reviewed.

The matrix puts too much weight on businesses that are affected by the cruise ship industry. Recommend changing the description. Scott will discuss with Tom how to reword this criteria.

There was a question about defining the rating scale.

Need to rebalance the weights on land based tourists vs cruise ship tourists.