

Bar Harbor Ferry Terminal Property

Leadership Advisory Committee

Monday, October 30, 2017, 10:00 am.

Municipal Council Chambers

Minutes

Attending: Anna Durand, Kristy Losquadro, Ruth Eveland, Heather Sorokin, Stephanie Clement for Tom Crikelair, Scott Hammond, Joe Minutolo, Ted Koffman. Cornell Knight Town Manager. 20 members of the public.

A conference call with Mark MacDonald, President of Bay Ferries Ltd and Elizabeth Swain, Facilitator was held.

Mark MacDonald reviewed the history of his company providing ferry service in Bar Harbor and Portland. Bay Ferries is exploring the possibility of ferry service from Bar Harbor to Yarmouth NS. The ferry would be at the dock for 3 to 4 hours per day starting at noon for unloading and loading. He sees great potential for ferry service, marine use and land based transportation uses. It is not definitive that ferry service will resume in Bar Harbor. They need to meet with Customs and Border Protections about facilities. The Customs requirements could affect the timing of the start. Parking space needs are 75-100 overnight spaces and 190-200 for loading. He said often times loading could be done with no waiting, vehicles could drive right on the ferry. They have exercised the option with the US Navy on the Cat Ferry for the 2018 season and the 2019 is available. He said the Navy is pleased with the terms and operation. The Jones Act prohibits foreign flagged ships from transport between American towns, but the Cat is US made, US flagged and operated by US Staff and many from Maine. Bay Ferries would be looking for at least a 5 year lease to recoup the investment in infrastructure. The ferry uses ultra-low Sulphur fuel. The distance to Yarmouth from Bar Harbor is 55% of the distance from Portland, so less speed is needed and less fuel. He said it is too early to decide on land based improvements such as the building and pavement. He would not offer a revenue estimate at this time.

Mr. MacDonald answered questions from the committee and the public.

The committee will hold their next meeting on Monday November 6 at 10 am and will review the matrix.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.