

**Harbor Committee
Bristol Town Office
March 11, 2021**

Present: Robert Ball, Troy Benner, David Caron, Steve Hope, Rick Poland, John Stotz

The meeting was called to order at 5:03pm.

Amendments to the agenda.

On a motion by Poland and a second by Hope all agreed to keep ordinance discussion to Brown's Cove, Long Cove, Thompson, and Pemaquid Falls Landings. Hanna and Moxie Cove landing will be taken up at the next meeting when Stolecki and the Parks Dept. will be in attendance.

Minutes.

On a motion by Poland and a second by Hope, the minutes from February 25 were approved unanimously.

Harbor Master Reports.

Hope reported not much going on in the harbor. Storage at the landing is full. The derelict float that was asked to be moved by NHMC is still at the landing. Someone had offered to move it, but they have not shown up to do the job yet. Several local fishermen were interested in using and taking responsibility for the float. Hope referred them to NHMC. Hope thought the float was too heavy for a car hauler and noted that float launching season is just a few weeks away.

Ball reported on communications with mooring owner RP 85 that had their mooring privilege revoked in Round Pond Harbor because they were renting their mooring location to a third party. The owner had been sent two notices. The first notice was sent in September 2020 citing violation of 38 M.S.R. §3 and Bristol's Harbor Ordinance about renting her mooring location to a third party. The notice instructed the owner to remove the vessel immediately. The second notice was sent in February 2021 informing the owner their privilege had been revoked, citing the mooring owner had not occupied or used the location for more than one year. The mooring owner was given a deadline of May 15, 2021 to remove the mooring hardware. The space will be re-assigned to the next person on the waiting list.

After receiving each notice, the mooring owner repeatedly called Ball and used abusive language with him and his wife to express her displeasure at his decision.

Written communications and a mooring permit for a larger boat were received in March 2021 from the mooring owner. The mooring owner had already contacted a local marine contractor to move the existing mooring to accommodate the larger boat. The same marine contractor contacted Ball about moving the mooring. Ball instructed the contractor to move the mooring under the town landing. Ball noted that this is the third time the mooring owner has increased the size of the boat and that it has caused problems with neighboring mooring owners in previous years. Benner recommended that the owner be placed on the waiting list with the larger boat size.

Ball feels his role as a Harbor Master and the Harbor Committee have done their due diligence regarding mooring RP 85. Any further action will need to include the Board of Selectmen.

Ball reported his waiting list contained over 80 people. He has worked with several other mooring owners who were renting to a third party and/or didn't own boats. All released their mooring spaces with no issues.

LD 101.

The Board of Selectmen decided it was best for the Harbor Committee not to offer testimony on the bill as a committee but encouraged individual members to support or oppose the legislation and could indicate that they were members of the Harbor Committee. Stotz said laying cable on ledge is a new concept and a substantial project that will lead to much bigger wind power projects off the coast of Maine. He stated the local fishing industry will suffer in the end.

Town Landing Ordinance.

Reviewed the management responsibility of the Harbor Committee for Brown's Cove, Long Cove and Thompson Landings. The management responsibility of Pemaquid Falls Landing was not reviewed as it lies with the Parks Dept. The responsibility of the Parks Dept. to maintain the landings when damage occurs from hauling the floats in and out was discussed. Bizarro wondered about the responsibility/liability of storing floats on town property without knowledge of float ownership. Currently, the Parks Dept. receives a list from the float haulers after the floats have been brought to the landings. Caron pointed out that responsibility of the landings will involve the Harbor Committee and the Parks Dept. working together.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10pm. The next meeting will be held on March 25 at 5pm at the Bristol School gymnasium. Agenda items to include: Town Landing Ordinance – Hanna and Moxie Cove Landing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Bizarro
Harbor Committee Secretary