

**Harbor Committee
Bristol Town Hall
May 26, 2022**

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

Also present: Chad Hanna, Leon MacCorkle, Kristine Poland, Cam Williams

Meeting called to order at 5:04

Harbormaster Reports.

Round Pond. New decals are needed for the “no wake” buoys. Ball reported the harbor was getting busier. Ball reported the pump-out for boats is ready to go.

Pemaquid. Stolecki reported Hanna Landing is about 30% full and the state park held their annual lottery for dinghy space.

New Harbor. Hope reported NHMC had left a float in the way of the ramp again. Hope moved the float so a boat could use the ramp.

The committee reviewed the meeting of May 19.

- Benner believed people will continue to upgrade to bigger boats and mooring space will become an issue in the future.
- All agreed it was nice of D. Benner to swap moorings with Max Moody.
- Hope received an email from Matt Moody apologizing for not contacting him before the boat arrived in the harbor.
- Stotz spoke with M. Prior after the meeting, and Prior indicated he would like to work with the committee.
- Stolecki thought “jiggling” the mooring field may eradicate the chance of anyone getting a mooring who is on the wait list. He wondered who was paying for all the “jiggling”.
- All are concerned about potential liability of boats going adrift, negligence of the mooring field and the safety of all boats in the harbors.
- K. Poland stressed that following the ordinance and documentation are important.

Float impoundment.

Stolecki reviewed the process of the floats impounded at the Transfer Station.

- NHMC took one float without Harbormaster approval and without paying the invoice in full.
- Committee chained all floats together.
- NHMC took two more floats. He was able to wiggle them out without breaking the chain.
- NHMC called Stolecki demanding the chains be cut. Stolecki refused stating to NHMC that the invoice had not been paid in full.
- NHMC cuts the chains and takes two more floats
- Second invoice was hand delivered by Treasurer Riley.

- To this date, a balance of \$500 remains unpaid. NHMC made three payments, each time paying after he had removed a float(s).
- Stolecki solicited advice from maritime law Attorney Koerting about the float impoundment. Koerting did not give advice on the float impoundment as this infraction is happening on land and should be charged through the DA's office. Koerting did advise that mooring privileges could be revoked due to the unpaid invoice.
- Stolecki contacted Lt B. Kane from LCSO. Kane said the owner of NHMC could be charged with criminal mischief for cutting the chains. This is considered a Class E crime. Kane cautioned Stolecki that if they did charge the owner, the Town would have to follow through regardless if the invoice was paid or not.

All committee members agreed to make a recommendation to the Select Board to have LCSO charge the owner of NHMC with criminal mischief for cutting the chain used to impound the floats.

The committee considered the process to revoke mooring privileges for NHMC. Stolecki will speak with marine patrol to see what services they could provide to enforce NHMC from using the moorings if they were revoked.

Penalties and Fines.

The committee spoke briefly about setting penalties and fines for those breaking mooring rules and/or the harbor ordinance. More research will be done. The matter was tabled for a future meeting.

Miscellaneous.

There was brief discussion about mooring wait lists and boat ownership. MacCorkle suggested that people on the wait list who don't currently own a boat be passed over until they owned a boat.

Williams asked about the charting project in Pemaquid River. He offered his help.

The meeting adjourned at 6:42pm. The next meeting will be held on June 23 at 5pm at the Bristol Town Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Bizarro
Harbor Committee Secretary