

**Harbor Committee
Bristol Town Hall
May 27, 2021**

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

Also present: Alex Beaudet, Kristine Poland

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

Minutes.

On a motion by Caron and a second by Poland, the minutes of April 22 were approved unanimously.

Mooring Field.

On a motion by Ball and a second by Hope, all agreed to contact F. Bedell for drone imagery of the mooring fields. Stolecki suggested video/photos be taken of all harbors. Ball will contact Bedell in July. Stotz recommended the video/photos be taken on a Sunday morning as more boats would be on their moorings. Ball suggested implementing a 5-year drone imagery schedule.

Float Storage.

Correspondence from the town's attorney was reviewed. Currently, Hanna and Moxie Cove Landings have deed restrictions concerning recreational use. The attorney affirmed that float storage at these landings was not a "commercial" activity, but a "municipal" activity associated with the recreational use of floats in the summer months. She suggested draft amendments to the Harbor Ordinance to assure that recreational use of the landings is maintained and guided the committee to review the Town of York's Harbor Ordinance.

Stolecki said storing floats is more of a service for the float owner and Stotz wondered if the attorney realized there was a third party (marine contractors) involved with the float storage process. Benner thought the correspondence received from the attorney could back up no float storage at the landings. All agreed to have the attorney attend their meeting on June 24 so they could explain the entire process to her and receive feedback.

Stolecki spoke about the public hearing on float storage held on 5/19/21. He pointed out that feedback had only been given by the Harbor Committee and he asked K. Poland for suggestions to move forward.

Ordinance amendments were briefly discussed. Stolecki noted that more infractions are at the landings rather than in the water and part-time Harbormasters are taken on the role of law enforcement. He spoke about sharing Warden services with the Shellfish Committee. Benner suggested getting an ordinance set up before contracting for Warden services. There was general discussion on the Town hiring a full-time Harbormaster.

Harbormaster Reports.

New Harbor. Hope reported all floats have been removed from the landing. The harbor is quiet.

Pemaquid. Stolecki reported about a dozen dinghies tied up at Hanna Landing and the parking area was clear of floats.

Round Pond. Ball reported a spacing dispute in Muscongus Harbor between a Bremen property owner whose floats extend into Bristol waters and a Bristol mooring owner whose moorings are located nearby the floats. Ball suggested the mooring owner sell the mooring hardware to the Bremen property owner. Ball has since heard they are negotiating. Stolecki wondered about the town line in Muscongus Harbor, Ball thought it started in the middle of the brook.

Ball said he added 4 more people to the waiting list in Round Pond and re-assigned 3 mooring spaces.

A catamaran sailboat just being launched in Round Pond flipped over when a big gust of wind came up. The sail was not up but the boat had two 200 hp outboard engines attached.

A marine contractor reported he had lost two moorings over the winter.

Miscellaneous.

Beaudet had attended the Selectboard meeting on 5/19/21 concerning the damage his boat had obtained at Hanna Landing. The Board asked Beaudet to attend this meeting for final resolution of his boat damage. Stolecki shared that he had spoken informally with Selectman Hanna about the Town's policy on boat usage at the landing. Stolecki and Hanna both agreed that use of the landing was at the owner's risk. Beaudet was informed the Town was not responsible for the damage and would not be willing to pay to fix the boat.

Benner and Hope asked that any problems seen at the landings be reported to the Harbormasters. Stolecki pointed out that the Harbormasters and Harbor Committee were part-time positions and any information pertaining to harbors and landings is useful.

K. Poland suggested something be added to the ordinance to address the use of floats at Hanna Landing and installing a "Use at Your Own Risk" sign.

The meeting adjourned at 6:14pm. The next meeting will be held on June 24 at 5pm at the Bristol Town Office. Agenda items to include: Attorney opinion at town landings.

Respectfully Submitted

Rachel Bizarro
Harbor Committee Secretary