

MINUTES
Ad Hoc Committee on Town Docks
Wednesday, September 14, 2016
Town Hall Annex Conference Room

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM with the following persons in attendance: Dave Senecal, Linda Murray, Paul O'Brien, Bob Tougher, Adam Tasker, Steve Durgan, and Dave Owen.

As this was the Committee's first meeting, the first order of business was for the Committee to organize itself. Dave Senecal was selected as chairman of the committee, and Steve Durgan as its secretary.

Dave Owen opened by presenting the original 1998 plans for the Town Docks as they were permitted and built. He pointed out that Jim Rines of White Mountain Survey was involved with the Town in getting that project designed, permitted and constructed, and that he had met with Jim Rines to discuss what would be involved in trying to expand the Town Docks. Mr. Rines had advised Mr. Owen that the regulations for such projects has become even more stringent than it was then, and it would be difficult to get permitting approval to expand the existing town docks. Steve Durgan commented about the possibility of getting approval from the state based on the success of Goodhue and Hawkins' experience in the not-too-distant past. It was suggested that we invite Jim Rines to the Committee's next meeting.

Dave Owen also shared a conversation he had with Dave Bowers, primary owner of the abutting parcel of land with lakefront access, about the possibility of the Town obtaining an easement over the waterfront portion of Bowers' property, which would possibly enable the construction of 1 or 2 more town docks. He reported that Mr. Bowers seemed open to that possibility, but it would depend on what could be negotiated between the parties and on the consent of his co-owners.

There was discussion about what the cost of the project would be, and Bob Tougher wanted to know if any private funds would be sought for these improvements. Dave Owen suggested that an amount of money be budgeted in next year's (2017) budget for engineering and permitting services to get the project through to a preliminary concept plan that could be discussed with the State permitting agency. The possibility of establishing a capital reserve account for the project was suggested by Linda Murray.

There was discussion about the enforcement of time limits at the Town Docks, and whether that would assist in making more spaces available. It was suggested to have the Police Chief attend a future meeting to discuss enforcement at the Town docks. It was noted that the boat ramp at the town docks is also of inadequate size to comfortably handle larger boats. It was suggested that we need to figure out the capacity of the current town docks and what capacity we need. The needs of the island residents also need to be taken into consideration.

It was suggested that committee members should visit our town docks and those of the other municipalities around Lake Winnepesaukee. Steve Durgan volunteered to take committee

members on a lake tour to view and tour the dock facilities in the other towns around the lake. It was agreed to schedule this boat tour on Wednesday, September 23rd at 9:00 AM, with Goodhue and Hawkins providing the boat. Bob Tougher also suggested meeting with the staff of the M.S Mount Washington to get their views on Wolfeboro town dock needs.

A lengthy discussion followed concerning the letter sent to the Board of Selectmen by resident John Ratcliffe, who proposed an extended “No Wake” zone in Wolfeboro Bay. Dave Owen noted that he had tried to follow up with the NH Marine Patrol to see about getting more “No Wake” zone buoys to mark the existing, statutory no wake zone, but that the Captain of the Marine Patrol was on vacation. It was agreed to continue discussion about this issue in the future.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Committee will be on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 9 AM. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Durgan, Secretary