

## *Wiscasset Waterfront Committee*

D Jones, Chair  
W. Morison , Secy.  
D Brown  
M. Damon  
K Cooper

Meeting ...Monday August 14, 2000

The meeting was called to order at 7PM at the firestation. Present were Jones, Morison, Brown, Damon, and Harbormaster.

Jones moved, Damon seconded, that the number of members needed to constitute a quorum for the Committee would be three. Motion passed 4-0.

The minutes of the July meeting were accepted as corrected.

Cooper joined the meeting.

Old Business: The Harbormaster has ordered a copy of "The Right Tack: Charting your Harbor's Future" published by the State Planning Office for each member of the committee. Copies of "Harbor Management" the handbook published by the Harbormaster's Association will not be available until early next year. He has not yet contacted the Army Corps of Engineers for a permit application for the moored fisherman's float, but will do so soon. He reported that the selectmen were agreeable to making one of the unused floats available for that purpose.

New Business: Damon suggested that we address "the whole program", referring to the Harbormaster's concerns involving the problems of the fishermen's use and misuse of the floats (Items 3, 4, 5 and 8 in August 7 minutes) before we discuss the matter of fees (Item 7 of the Aug. 7 minutes). Damon also reported that the fishermen had been invited to appear at this evening's meeting. None were present.

Morison suggested that the committee should urge that the town immediately address the subject of town acquisition of full control over the entire waterfront to protect it from unwanted and improper development, and offered the management plan of Camden as an example. That harbor offers separate and equal facilities for the fishermen, tour boat operators, and the public. The Chair suggested that we should first deal with the problems brought to us by the harbormaster.

The Harbormaster recommended that the floats on the southwesterly side of the main pier should be designated for fishermen and their gear only. This involves floats Nos.14, 15, 16, 19, & 20. He further suggested that no commercial fishing gear or product be allowed

on the floats off the pedestrian pier (Nos. 1 through 8), except that worm cars would be continue to be permitted to be tied to those floats.

The Chair suggested we adopt the various items, tentatively, and hold off our recommendations until all is ready. Other members felt that the designation of a commercial fishing area should not be postponed until a full package of actions is finalized.

Cooper moved, "The Waterfront Committee recommends to the selectmen that floats 14, 15, 16, 19, and 20 on the south side of Memorial Pier be designated for use by commercial fishermen only, and that no commercial fishing gear or products be permitted on floats 1 through 8 and on the pedestrian pier. This recommendation is a step toward a comprehensive use plan for the Wiscasset waterfront facility." Damon seconded the motion and it was passed 5-0.

After much discussion, the Committee agreed in principle that a mast and boom costing in the neighborhood of \$6000 might be built and installed at town expense on the southeast corner of Memorial Pier, and the cost recovered through user fees charged to fishermen and others.

It was agreed to meet in two weeks on Monday August 28 at 7pm in the firehouse to resume the discussion of the mast and boom issue.

W. K Morison, Secretary