Wiscasset Waterfront Committee

October 28, 2014

Present: Susan Robson, chair; Rick Scanlan; Frank Sprague; Margo Strong; Dan Bradford, harbormaster; Marian Anderson, Town Manager

Meeting brought to order at 1708.

Marian introduced to the members. We welcome her to Wiscasset. She helped with the Richmond shoreline stabilization. That experience will be most valuable to our committee.

Harbormaster reported that most of the recreational boats had already been taken out. The plan is to remove some of the floats on the south side as they need to be replaced this winter. The electrical work on the Main street pier should be finished mid Nov. The bathrooms have been closed and cleaned and water turned off. The waterfront is ready for winter.

Installation of NOAH tide gauges will probably be done early spring.

Marian will be helping us with the public meetings to discuss boardwalk options. As we have just learned of some other options that may influence this meeting we are in agreement to wait until early spring to do the public informational meetings. We want to be sure we have all options explored fully. There seems to be a DOT master plan for Wiscasset. We want to review this as it may well change our options. Marian will contact DOT and see when we could gather to see this presentation. There is some discussion of a pedestrian under pass in this plan and that may affect where our boardwalk would begin, required height for ADA access. Also Marian shared with us we might not need to have the heights we were discussing if we can make this include shoreline stabilization. We will need to explore this.

The port-a-potties were removed the end of Sept. We all agree they should be budgeted until the end of Oct. as there is still need at least through Columbus Day weekend. We would like to see permanent bathrooms but for now will continue with portables. We could explore cost sharing with businesses. The Chamber may use the CEI building after they leave.

Town Planner interviews are next week. Unfortunately none from our committee will be able to be there for all 9 interviews. We have asked that Marian look for someone with a long term planning focus, 10 years or more. We voiced a need to increase industry presence as a way to decrease tax load on residents. Would like to see tax incentives used to our benefit.

Over the next couple of months we need to fine tune the pier policies once again. Need to put some teeth into our rules. We need to have guidelines for what to do if the policies are not followed. Exactly when are rents and proof of insurance due by. Payment for power and water, if indicated.

Also would like to explore lighting options and insect control.

Next meeting will be Nov. 25, 2015 at 1700.

Meeting adjourned.