

Minutes of the Marina Board Meeting held Thursday, January 15, 2009, at 11:30 a.m. at House of Flavors Restaurant.

Present: Chairman Jack Bulger, Vice Chairman Dick Boes, members Avery Benedict, Howard Hansen, and Kaye Holman.

Absent: None.

Also present were City Manager John Shay, Marina Manager Jim Gallie, Assistant Manager Jim Christensen and Marina Secretary Rachelle Enbody

The meeting was called to order at 11:41 a.m.

Dave Throckmorton, a previous marina employee and current seasonal boater, introduced himself and stated that he had no issues to discuss but wanted to attend the meeting.

Moved by A. Benedict, seconded by K. Holman, to elect J. Bulger as Chairman and D. Boes as Vice Chairman for 2009. Motion carried.

Moved by K. Holman, seconded by A. Benedict, to set the monthly Marina Board Meetings for the third Thursday of every month, at 11:30 a.m. at House of Flavors Restaurant. Motion carried.

Moved by D. Boes, seconded by K. Holman, to approve the minutes from the meeting held 12/18/08, changing the work weeks to weeds in the manager's report paragraph. The minutes were approved as corrected. Motion carried.

J. Gallie gave the Managers Report. The marina will now bank with West Shore Bank instead of Fifth Third Bank. The City Treasurer made the decision to change due to better rates and services. J. Gallie and J. Shay will meet with engineer Mark Lee today at 1:00 p.m. to work out some of the final design issues for the new transient dock. J. Shay stated that the marina has received the permit from the DEQ for the construction of the new dock. The grant funding is secure for both the transient dock and breakwater projects. The City is still waiting on the Bottomlands Agreement from the Corps for the breakwater project. The State may take up to two months to review the design before the City would be able to put the project(s) out for bid. A discussion followed regarding aspects of the project, whether the work would be done by land or water, when the project would begin, possible completion dates, and the types of equipment that would be used. The letter sent to the Waterways Commission in December requested that J. Shay and J. Gallie be allowed to attend the April meeting to present a request for additional seasonal slips. J. Gallie now has a conflict with the April meeting date so he has left a message with William Boik of the DNR to see if the request can be put on the Agenda for the February meeting. The Sara Tier II Report was completed and submitted on-line. The report is required for hazardous chemicals (gasoline and diesel) stored at the marina. Two of the bubblers on "A" dock need repair.

Manager's Report (continued)

Community Development Director Heather Loney is working on a new website for the City of Ludington, which includes the marina as a department. J. Gallie is working with H. Loney to provide new information for the website. J. Gallie explained to the Board the changes that will take place with the new bank, new transient dock, and new reservation system. The Waterways Commission, when presented with a request from a marina, has granted the request with the stipulation that the marina go on the Central Reservation System (CRS). The CRS is a computer software program that will replace the cash register and credit card machine currently used at the marina. The software vendor will provide the computer, cash register, credit card machine, and training on the use of the system. If implemented, boaters must go to a link on the State of Michigan website or call a toll free number to make a slip reservation and are charged an additional \$8.00 to make the reservation. The marina currently takes all reservations at the dock office and charges \$5.00. The \$8.00 fee under the new system goes to the CRS system vendor. Once a month, the state will distribute the reservation money collected to the individual marinas. There are a minimum of three training sessions required to operate the system, and J. Gallie is checking to see if the training session could be held at West Shore Community College. J. Gallie felt the new system could cause problems with recording the figures into the financial reports in a timely manner and also noted the loss of revenue if the marina no longer collects its own \$5.00 per reservation fee. He felt that this will be a challenging season with the construction of the transient dock, new Central Reservation System, and poor economy. He also stated that there could be a considerable loss of revenue this season during to the construction process. The Detroit Area Steelheaders Association has requested a memorial bench at the marina. J. Gallie will provide cost information to them along with location choices for the bench. The marina is expected to save money this year on aquatic weed control due to the construction process of the new transient dock. The marina showed some savings this year by taking care of most of the winterization of the plumbing themselves instead of hiring a plumbing contractor. J. Gallie stated there are six or seven employees that will not be returning for 2009 and has not yet determined how many will be needed for next season.

J. Gallie had a request from charter boater who would like the marina to extend one of the docks on the west side of "F" dock to accommodate his boat. A couple of docks on the east side have already been extended to accommodate longer charter boats and the Board felt that the boater should utilize one of those slips on the east side instead of going to the expense of extending another dock when there is already a vacant dock available.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.

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Rachelle D. Embody, Marina Secretary