

Summer 2014 Harbormasters Report

Staff: Jim Engell joined the staff once again this summer to round out the full staff. This year we did not pick up a summer temp, so much of the maintenance projects requiring two people had to be postponed. In August our 25 year night man, George Wallace gave his retirement notice with Sept 30th, 2014 as his final day. We wish George well in his retirement and hope to have his replacement online in October. We are also filling the position of the person we let go last winter and hope to have a new hire in this position in October as well.

Maintenance:

Summer allowed us to complete a variety of maintenance projects including moving into the brand new North Harbor and resurfaced both ends of the SH ramps. The North Harbor required a bit of finishing touches. Age as well as wear and tear forced the relocation of the waste oil dumpster and condemn an area of the old North Harbor approach. We will be looking into design costs etc. in conjunction with building remodel.

North Harbor: The opening and move in went fine. There are open stalls available in all stall size class, which have been allowing for new customers as well as relieving the pressure among the existing fleet. GFI Elc has seemed to work itself out with permanent stall holders agreeing to upgrade their equipment. Transients were a mixed bag, some had problems others didn't. The staff suffered through many (many) lectures by electrical "experts" throughout the summer.

Middle Harbors: Entire stall was full all summer, a few have started to free up with the sport season ending.

Drive Down Project: Tamico completed much of the upland work prior to the in-water work restriction of April 15th, took a break and resumed work in July. A change order oked through the Assembly for \$38K to add a water meter vault to service the area. Also as of 9/3 Progress Meeting a couple of issues have arose with the pile driving the approach piles: Trouble with a rock at the mud line at one pile and hard rock is a few feet deeper than originally thought as Tamico drives piling out towards the Narrows. Tamico has been directed to add extra length to ensure proper embedment on those that need it. We have some leftover 16" pile from the North Harbor Project that Tamico will use, but we will end up ordering some to make up for the addition. Should be under \$20,000

At this point approx. \$1.4 million is available in the Legislative Grant

Crane Dock Widening: Western Marine is set to move into position to begin work 9/16. Customers have been notified that the Crane Dock will be shut down until Nov 3rd. Project will require a bit of the parking lot shut down, but most of the time pedestrian traffic will remain open for access to the ramp.

CSMI Grants: Troller Work Float has been a huge success. It has been used by both Trollers and Gillnetters. Grant paperwork has been finalized and inspections done.

Fish Cleaning Float is scheduled for delivery 9/23 and Tamico will expedite the installation. We were successful in extending the Grant completion date to 10/31/14 to ensure Agency approval.

Misc:

-Recently I was able to spend a considerable amount of time with Jay Sterne, Senator Murkowski's Legislative Assistant to discuss possible dredging the South Harbor entrance. Letters have been sent to the new director of the AK District of Corps of Engineers requesting a conditional assessment of the area in hopes that there is interest in the Federal interest in funding the clean up the area. We also visited about regional conditions for both Federal Marine Mammal issues and Mitigation requirements. I also spent a couple of hours with Sebastian O'Kelly with our DC Lobbyist discussing Federal issues and following up on Murkowski's staff meeting. Among other items we talked sealion proofing the WN bouys.

-Harbor Parking issues: This summer the Borough was not able to enforce parking as the AK Court would not recognize tickets given by a non-officer or left on windshields, therefore parking was a nightmare and abuse was rampant. We have been told that State policy has been changed to address our needs for the future.

We have looked into the NH parking issue for an alternative to building the bulkhead (\$2.3 est 2007/\$46,000/50 per parking stall) and investigated the purchase of the old First Bank property and building (\$360,000 est/\$18,000/20 per spot).

-Over the winter, we have Dieter Klose working on a conceptual design for the Harbor Office.

-Scow Bay: Worked with users to clear the area for Steve Berry to begin assembling his building on his lease adjacent to John Murgas's operation.

-On Monday 9/8 the Safari Explorer miscalculated their exit of the South Harbor and ended up hitting and doing severe damage to the outer section of Mainwalk #1, damage included cracking the main the southern structural glulam beam and tweaking the hinge on the last finger float. They did not hit or damage any vessel, but had the boat owner's check to make sure. The end float section is a special design to weather excess wake and the entire float section is 10' X 62' and estimated replacement in the neighborhood of \$120-130,000. We are communicating with the tour ship company and seeking PND Engineers expertise as needed.

Fleet Activity: Busy summer. Quite a few visitors due to Yachting Magazine? New facility? Commercial side down due to season activity in other areas. Increased interest in winter moorage from non-commercial vessels.

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