

## DOCK REPRESENTATIVE MEETING SUMMARY

May 9, 2009

### ATTENDANCE

Port Authority staff in attendance included Harbormaster Tim Frame, Assistant Harbormaster of Administration Mary Ann Pawlicke and Kristen Winkelstern. Board members in attendance included Jonita Davis, John Haynes and Sam Johns.

Dock Representatives included:

- ❖ Terry Moser: 200 Dock
- ❖ Dale Manuel: 500 Dock
- ❖ Keith Logan: 600 Dock
- ❖ Denise Watt: 600 Dock

### DISCUSSION FROM HARBORMASTER

Harbormaster Tim Frame informed the group about the following topics:

- Washington Park North Shore Dredge & Ramp Extension project was completed by *Tonn & Blank, Inc.* in mid March. An additional twenty (20') feet had been extended into the water with a five (5') to six (6') foot depth.
- As part of this seasons sand containment project, landscapers from *Old Paths, Inc.* have planted 80,000 dune grass plants along the northern edge of the basin. Unlike previous seasons, they were planted in high density due to variable winds, along the eastern side of marina, trailing off towards the pier.
- Board member Jonita Davis has been renovating the Port Authority's website which is in the completing stages. Visit the new site at [www.mcmarina.org](http://www.mcmarina.org) and post any comments you may have.
- Repairs to the concrete walkway at the 400, 500 and 600 docks will take place in approximately two (2) weeks.
- As part of the marina recycling program, Harbormaster Frame contacted *Able Disposal*, who can provide us with two (2) - six (6) yard yellow dumpsters which would be picked up bi-monthly at a cost of \$50.00 each per pick up. The downside is that some boaters tend to use them as regular trash bins which can attract bees and rodents, in which case Able will not dispose of contents. Harbormaster Frame suggested the dumpsters be locked and participants will be issued a key for the season.
- Tentative plans to upgrade the 500 dock bathhouse in the fall. Sam Johns informed the group ideally we would like to rebuild it when the capital becomes available, in any case renovations are scheduled for late this season.
- Jonita Davis distributed the *Michigan City Marinas History Book* in which she authored. Copies are available to slip holders in the office. In addition, packages of fifteen (15) historic postcards are available for \$7.99.
- Due to some recent complaints, the board of directors has discussed the possibility of a smoking ban throughout the marina. Harbormaster Frame asked for the group's opinion.
  - Keith Logan felt a ban would be time consuming to control, too much overkill. Boating is recreational and should not be overrun with too many regulations. In his experience, he felt most

smokers he has encountered are respectful of others and go so far as to use their own containers so as not to litter the remains.

- Terry Moser suggested communicating any Port Authority concerns through the newsletter. He went on to state that anyone who finds the smoking to be a source of contention should manage the problem individually without having to form new regulations.
- The general consensus was a smoking ban would be too hard to enforce and the representatives felt a new Port Authority regulation would not be beneficial for the boating community.
- In reference to a recent article regarding a new launch ramp facility to be located at Billy Beach, the harbormaster showed the dock representatives a preliminary concept drawing of the proposed site. He explained due to the limited parking, sand and already heavily restricted use of the Washington Park ramp, the idea was to close and relocate it. NIPSCO representatives have so far been in favor of relinquishing the property for the project. Necessary permits have been applied for along with grants and funding. We do not expect any new information until the fall. The project could take three (3) to seven (7) years to complete at a projected cost of six (6) million dollars.

### **DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS FROM DOCK REPRESENTATIVES**

#### Terry Moser

- New regulation regarding security during dock parties.
  - Permission slips (available in office) must be turned in two (2) weeks prior to party. If a deejay or band will be performing, a security guard or an off duty police officer must be present (will be provided by the Port Authority), and must end no later than 11:00 p.m. This does not apply to picnics or small gatherings.
- Status on feeding the birds.
  - Port Authority along with the Park Department has agreed to adopt **Resolution No. 2009-1** to prohibit the feeding of wildlife on Park property. The resolution came about after attending a workshop on ecoli bacteria and beach closures in March. This would allow Park officials along with the police department to issue tickets. The City Council should finalize the ordinance after their third reading of the resolution at an upcoming meeting.

#### Denise Watt

- Ms. Watt requested that the 500 dock bulletin board be updated.
- Status of parking lot and dog walk area on west side of marina.
  - Project currently on hold as other city developments are being considered as priority.

#### Keith Logan

- Requested sidewalk rails for dock carts.
- Would like to have the 600 dock pressure washed by Memorial Day.
- Organize project for slip holders to plant flowers as part of a marina beautification project.

- Assistant Harbormaster Pawlicke informed him although this was a great idea which could be implemented; the Port Authority is currently working in conjunction with the Park Department for the American Bloom Community Beautification Project and as such there are some restrictions as to what types of shrubs and flowers can be planted.
- Depth and cost at fuel dock.
  - Depth remains around six (6') to eight (8') feet.
  - Fuel remains at fifty (.50) cents above cost.
- Inquired about a graffiti ordinance and would like to organize a public service project to paint the lighthouse.
  - Although the staff tries to maintain the pier from time to time, it is not actually the Port Authority's jurisdiction but is supposed to be maintain by the U.S.C.G. The Harbormaster will provide all paint and materials to any volunteers wishing to participate.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting concluded at 11:15 a.m.