

**BOIS BLANC TOWNSHIP HARBOR COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**November 14, 2020**

**Bois Blanc Township – Wagner Room via Teleconference**

Meeting called to order by Chairman, Mike Harrington, at 10:31 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Members Present:** Bill Akright, Don Balbaugh (via phone), Richard Berger, Paul Jahn, Chris Suchner (via phone), Tom Wybranowski, Mike Harrington (via phone). Also present: Larry Phillips, Harbormaster, Betty Hutchinson, Recording Secretary.

**Motion** made by D. Balbaugh to approve Minutes of October 10, 2020, as presented. Second by P. Jahn. Roll call vote: Ayes: B. Akright, D. Balbaugh, R. Berger, P. Jahn, C. Suchner, T. Wybranowski, M. Harrington. **Motion carried.**

**Report by Harbormaster:** L. Phillips said the D bumpers were being put in the North Pier. Will continue to work on them until complete. It is already working better for Plaunt Transportation ferry. There is limited activity at dock this time of year.

Mike asked about the bolts needing to be changed. Larry said they were pulled out. At present, he said he is scheduling getting the finger piers tucked inside north pier. D Balbaugh drained water so nothing should freeze.

Mike also asked about the North Ramp plank modifications. Larry said they were not done yet.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Development of Cheboygan River Property.** T. Wybranowski said to get started on the development of the river parcel, a packet was put together containing State grant resources. They were given to those who helped write the Bright Waters Park grant and to other Township officials. A Request for Proposal needs to be developed from an engineering firm on the cost of the concept and how the parcel would be developed. Engineering firm(s) will be contacted. D. Balbaugh asked if the Harbor Commission or the Township have any idea what we are looking for or are we letting an engineering firm decide what we want. Cliff Bloom has done an outline as to what the township would like to see done with the parcel, and that should help determine what the Township would do.

A question asked was would the creation of a five-year plan mean that we would be waiting for five years for any action to take place. Mike indicated that a five-year plan shows an overall framework of what we want to have accomplished in five years. Engineers will put together a realistic vision of what can be accomplished.

L. Phillips said he would like to the Harbor Commission to clarify exactly what their top priority would be. He feels that the Ramp should be our first priority, and that getting it functional is mandatory so that the dock will handle whatever the island needs. Our home base needs to be made usable before other projects are started. Mike indicated that along with the Commissions priorities, the home properties would always be a yearly priority.

**Preparations for the Membership of the 2021 Harbor Commission.** Mike reminded those that would like to remain on the Harbor Commission must submit a letter of intent delivered to the Township to be considered. A new commission should be put in place by the December meeting. He reminded the Commission that officers must be elected each year. Mike suggested that a position of treasurer would be important to help with the mission going forward.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Harbor Commission Vacancies.**

Currently there are two vacancies for membership on the Harbor Commission. Mike Harrington and Bill Akright will not be returning. There will be a posting for vacancies on the Commission up by Tuesday.

**Yearly Goals for 2021.** Mike indicated that the Harbor Commission needs to create a one-year plan and a harbor plan. He would like each member put together a list of recommendations as a set of goals for next year and have them ready for the meeting in December.

### **Comments from Members of the Harbor Commission.**

No comment.

### **Public Comment:**

K. Schoenborn asked about plans for the Pines Dock. Mike indicated it will be part of the five-year plan. Kris said that the public feels its hands are tied as to fundraising efforts as the Township now owns the dock. D. Akright said there is no reason that donations can't be made toward development of the dock. The Township would be looking at grants or other sources such as fund raising, and if the public would like to organize a fundraising effort, the Township could work with that.

Next meeting will be December 12, 2020, at 10:30 a.m. in the Wagner Room.

**Motion** made by C. Suchner to adjourn the meeting at 11:09 a.m. Second by D. Balbaugh. Roll call vote: Ayes: B. Akright, D. Balbaugh, R. Berger, P. Jahn, C. Suchner, T. Wybranowski, M. Harrington. **Motion carried.**

Submitted by,

Betty Hutchinson  
Recording Secretary