Saco Coastal Waters Commission
Minutes of the July 5, 2006 Meeting

I. Call Meeting to Order – At 7:00 p.m. a Saco Coastal Waters Commission meeting was held at City Hall.

II. Roll Call of Members – The members present constituted a quorum. The members present: Chairman Joseph Stephenson, Vice Chairman Robert Morowski Jr., Treasurer Robert Barris (7:07 p.m.), Peter Scontras (7:12 p.m.), Todd Stewart, and Mike Gray. Also present: Harbormaster Don Abbott, Asst. Harbormaster Daniel Chadbourne, Council Liaison Roland Michaud, Deputy Director of Public Works Mark Lorello and Dale Shannon, Supervisor at Public Works. Wayne Hutchins (Notified) was absent this evening.

III. Approval of Minutes – June 7, 2006

Robert Morowski moved, Todd Stewart seconded to approve the June 7, 2006 minutes as written. The motion passed with four (4) yeas.

V. Old Business

A. Hoist & Pilings – Update

Dep. Director of Public Works Mark Lorello presented the following five Hoist Options:

CAMP ELLIS PIER
HOIST OPTIONS
JULY 5, 2006

Option One
“Weatherize” existing hoists
Includes seals, “raincoat”, weather rated control pendent.

Option Two
Replace existing hoists with marine rated units.

Option Three
Fabricate and install hydraulic winch (one-ton rating).
Locally fabricated

Option Four
Install motorized Jib Crane 10ft. height X 10 ft. reach.

Option Five
Install monorail system.
Assumes only minor modification to pier.

Something else
Design, fabricate and install handle for existing jib? Does this solve a problem?

The Commission felt that this information should be presented to all the Commercial Pier Users. A Public Meeting was set up for July 18, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. at the Camp Ellis Pier. A rain date was set up for July 19, 2006. Oest Inc.
Engineers will be available to discuss these different Hoist Options with the Fisherman, as well as the Fisherman will demonstrate how they currently use the existing hoists.

**Pilings** – Mark Lorello found out that no permits other than drafting a permit through the Code Enforcement Office are required to replace the Pilings.

Todd Stewart also called Prock Marine, who said that they would do all the permitting process if required for $3000. They recommended that a wood called Green Hard be used. The Green Hard wood costs $12-$13 a foot, and about 10’ would need to be put in the ground. It would also cost about $1800 to truck the pilings here. Generally 1 piling per 30’ for an area that doesn’t have a lot of strong current. Also a concrete pillar similar to the one at the public ramp in Saco be used to hold the upper end of the piling. Prock charges $500 a hour from the job they’re currently at.

Robert Morowski suggested using concrete pilings, because these would never need to be replaced.

Peter Scontras moved, Robert Barris seconded that the Commission recommends that Mark Lorello continue to pursue the feasibility and permitting for the permanent placement of pilings & floats adjacent to the ramp. The motion passed with six (6) yeas.

**B. Whistle Buoy – Update**

Chairman Joseph Stephenson drafted a letter in support of getting the Whistle Buoy back, and will be sending it out this week to the U.S. Coast Guard.

**C. No Wake Buoys – Update**

All the buoys are in.

**D. Security Issues at the Pier – Camera Systems**

Commission needs to decide whether to view or record with the Camera System.

Dep. Dir. of Public Works Mark Lorello presented the following information: Web Cam – Not good for security purposes, and $3500 a piece with a wireless connection and IP address. Record System – Ability to record 24/7, $3500 per camera and $10,000 for a recorder plus the cost of the installation, hardware, and monthly usage charge.

Robert Morowski talked with Seacoast Security, and they said that you can have as many cameras as you want at Business Cost through Time Warner Cable. The first camera is $85.00 a month, and you can add up to 4 more free of charge. The recorder would be on site at the pier, and would need to be protected from the elements. This recorder would allow 24/7 Internet access to anyone who has the IP address. The picture would be in color, which makes it easier to prosecute someone for vandalism if need be. It would also come with zoom and would cost about $500-$700. Other factors to consider are how many channels are needed. Does the Commission want an IP address for each camera, or would a split screen to view two or more cameras be better than logging onto each of the different cameras. The cameras could either be hard wired, or wireless. This total package would cost between $5000-$6000. There would be an additional charge for the box to house the recorder.

Robert Barris moved, Peter Scontras seconded to have Mark Lorello call up Seacoast Security and get an estimate. The motion passed with six (6) yeas.

**VII. New Business**

**B. Education Trips to Wood Island – Tom Goulding**

The Wood Island Group is a non-profit, volunteer organization that provides guided educational trips to Wood
Island to view the lighthouse. Donations from the public are used to help maintain the lighthouse, boat and mooring. The group is thinking about stopping in Camp Ellis roughly every other weekend. This would generate money for the Parking Lot, as well as area businesses.

Todd Stewart moved, Mike Gray seconded to allow the Wood Island Group use of the Boat Ramp. The motion passed with four (4) yeas, and two (2) nays.

C. Yvon Brisson – Mooring Transfer

Mr. Brisson came before the Commission with a letter from Roger Tousignant of O.O.B. who owns a Mooring in Camp Ellis. Mr. Tousignant gave Mr. Brisson permission to use his mooring to tie up his sailboat.

The Commission explained to Mr. Brisson that moorings were not transferable. Only the owner of the mooring can have a boat on it.

VI. New Business

A. Enforcement of the new Chapter 118 Harbor, River and Waterfront Ordinance

On June 12, 2006 Treasurer Bob Barris attended the “Boaters Informational Seminar”, which was hosted by the Saco Police Department and the Maine Marine Patrol. After the meeting, some members of the Saco Police Department, Marine Patrol, and Saco Coastal Waters Commission stayed to discuss some common concerns. Bob presented a letter this evening that outlined what these common concerns were.

Attendees at this June 12th meeting were: Ray Demers, Paul Reynolds and Ken Foss from the Saco Police Department, Daryen Granata from the Maine Marine Patrol, and Wayne Hutchins, Todd Stewart and Bob Barris from the Saco Coastal Waters Commission.

Some of the general topics discussed were:

- Saco’s new Harbor and Waterfront Ordinances
- The necessity for common Ordinances and enforcement between Saco and Biddeford
- River Patrol coverage from Saco and Biddeford
- Saco’s current patrol boat not being “river patrol friendly”
- The need for additional “no wake” buoys
- Communication of the “no wake” zones by means of generating and distributing a brochure

Some of the suggestions that arose from the discussion were:

- Current Enforcement - General consensus was that even though Saco had new Ordinances for “no wake” areas, buoy placement etc., they had not yet been communicated broadly enough for enforcement. It was therefore recommended by all that the same enforcement policies in place last year, be used this season. All also agreed that the Marine and River Patrols could use this season to monitor the activity in areas that are being effected by the new ordinances to see how to best start preparing for the changes taking place next year.
- Biddeford and Saco waterfront ordinances – The following suggestions came up during much discussion about Biddeford’s Ordinances, and Saco Ordinances:
  - Compare Biddeford’s Ordinances with Saco’s new Ordinances.
  - Work out any differences which require a common enforcement by all parties
  - Establish clear enforcement policies
  - Establish guidelines and/or goals for both Biddeford’s and Saco’s Harbor Patrol regarding seasonal coverage and equipment support.
- “No Wake” Zones and Buoys
  - Establish the new no wake zones
  - Establish where additional “no wake” buoys are needed
  - Notify Coast Guard of all new buoy locations
- Establish common policies for maintenance of, setting, and pulling all “no wake” buoys
- Complete the “Biddeford and Saco Harbor Patrol” Saco River brochure
- Establish a plan for posting and distributing the brochure
- For consensus of where the “no wake” zones should be marked with buoys, it was suggested that the following members be present: Daryen Granata of the Marine Patrol, Ray Demers of the Saco River Patrol, a member from the Biddeford River Patrol or Police Dept., the Biddeford Harbor Master or Assistant Harbor Master, Don Abbott the Saco Harbor Master, and Mark Lorello of the Saco Public Works and possibly a member from the Saco Coastal Waters Commission

  **Saco’s Patrol Boat** – It was discussed that Saco’s current water patrol boat was not “river patrol friendly”. It is very difficult to control when trying to pull up alongside, and trying to tie up to a boat that has been hailed to stop. Also, when the boat is powered up beyond a couple of knots of speed, it leaves a very large wake that is dangerous to other boaters and kayakers on the river. General consensus was that the Saco River Patrol needs a more “river patrol friendly” boat if it is going to continue to patrol the river.

  **River Patrol Coverage by Saco and Biddeford** – It was thought that:
  - Biddeford would not have river patrol coverage this year because of staffing shortages
  - Biddeford would not have their river patrol boat available on the river this year
  - Saco would have river patrol coverage depending on available staff coverage
  - The current boat being used by the Saco River Patrol (the Fire Department’s rescue boat) is not “river patrol friendly”

It was recommended that Saco and Biddeford get together to work on common rules, then work to enforce them.

Peter Scontras moved, Robert Barris seconded that we send the City Administrator the above information conveying that it is critical that a meeting be held at the earliest date, with the City Administrators, Mayors, Police Chiefs, Commission members to discuss issues of mutual critical concern as partially addressed in the above document. The motion passed with six (6) yeas.

**IV. General**

**A. 5000 Account Review**

Treasurer Robert Barris will present the 5000 Account next month. The account balance is about $90,000 minus the reserves.

**VII. Adjournment**

With unanimous consent, the Commission adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Attest: Michele L. Hughes, Recording Secretary  
Date Approved: August 9, 2006