

**MINUTES OF THE HARBOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2008**

Vice Chr. Signorelli presided and called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT – Jim Bingle, Tim Bruning, Richard Geyer, Beach Hall, Dick Lappin, and Joe Signorelli.

ABSENT – Larry Bruski, Bob Parsons, and Richard Peacock.

OTHER CITY PERSONNEL PRESENT – City Mgr. Mark Slown, Harbor Master Brian Wagner and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Janet M. Nowak.

It was moved by Comm. Bruning, seconded by Comm. Geyer, that the minutes of the December 11, 2007 meeting be approved as written.

Ayes – All, the motion carried.

Mayor Hall reported Harry Whiteley has submitted his resignation from the Harbor Advisory Committee to the City Council.

**CITIZENS APPEARING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE:** None.

**REPORTS/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

**HARBOR MASTER REPORT**

Harbor Master Wagner reported on the following:

- Due to the weather, the ice suppression bubblers have been turned off.
- Updated the Committee on seasonal slip rentals. To date, 32 deposits have been paid.

City Mgr. Slown gave a brief report on what is happening in Rogers City, i.e., web-site, VSIC grant, and meetings.

**FRANK KRIST – PRESENTATION**

Frank Krist, a member of the Lake Huron Advisory Board, which was formed in 1989 by the DNR, gave a presentation on information that was gathered from the Fish Monitoring Program of the Great Lakes. Krist provided a handout that consisted of information on the food web, graphs showing the recent food web, statistical information, and what is happening with the food web, and how this is affecting fish in the Great Lakes. He also had samples of live specimen on which the fish feed. Krist explained the information that was provided in the handout and how the zebra mussel and quagga mussel are taking out the algae, which is food for the organisms that the fish feed on, and how this affects the food chain and lake bottom. Also included in the information Krist provided, were statistics and status trends in fishing hours of various fish that are harvested from Lake Huron. Krist explained more of the native species of fish will be seen. Discussion ensued on how this has and will impact the Rogers City Marina and the need to change tactics to bring boaters into the marina. Vice Chr. Signorelli thanked Krist for his presentation. There was a brief discussion on cormorants and their impact on the fish.

**BOAT SHOW PLANNING**

Harbor Master Wagner provided a sample coupon that he plans to hand out at the Detroit Boat Show. The coupon is for a free night stay at the harbor. The coupons will be numbered to avoid duplication. He also explained what was handed out at the last boat show he participated in. Wagner also provided samples of other items that he proposes to hand out at the boat show; however, these items would cost extra. He asked the Commission for their input on providing these items as free gifts for people at the boat show. Discussion ensued on if these items could be better served by providing to boaters at the harbor versus at the boat show, where people will take a free item and then throw it away. Wagner has a sign up schedule for volunteers to help at the show. He asked if any Committee members would like to be there when legislative officials are at the show. Wagner will provide information to local newspapers on the City's participation at the Detroit Boat Show.

January 8, 2008

**PRINT AD PROMOTIONS**

Harbor Master Wagner reported on print ad promotions. He informed the Committee of the America's Great Loop Cruisers' Association and possibly advertising with them. Wagner further explained this will tap in with a group of people who would not normally stop at the harbor.

**WATERWAYS COMMISSION WAIVER REQUEST**

February 15<sup>th</sup> is the next Waterways Commission meeting in Lansing. The charter boat plan was approved by City Council, which will need to be approved by the Waterways Commission before it could be put in place. Wagner has been approached by a local dive boater who provides dive charters and asked if the charter boat plan would apply to his business. Discussion ensued on offering the charter boat plan to non-fishing charters. For discussion, Wagner provided a handout of the promotional charter plan that will be presented to the Waterways Commission. There was a brief discussion on the information Wagner provided. Wagner and Comm. Hall will be working on the information to provide to the DNR so it will be on the February 15<sup>th</sup> Waterways Commission agenda.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion from Comm. Lappin, seconded by Comm. Bingle, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

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JOE SIGNORELLI  
VICE CHAIRMAN

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JANET M. NOWAK, DEPUTY CLERK  
TREASURER