

**CBJ Docks and Harbors Board**  
**Harbor Fee Review Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**For Thursday April 28th, 2016**

I. Call To Order – Budd Simpson called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. in CBJ room 224.

II. Roll Call – The following members were present: Tom Donek, David Lowell, Bob Janes, and Budd Simpson.

Absent: Robert Mosher

Also present were the following: Carl Uchtyl – Port Director, Dave Borg – Harbormaster, Dolly Raster- Administrative Assistant III, Jennifer Mejia- Administrative Assistant II, and Doug Unruh – Operations Maintenance Supervisor.

III. Approval of Agenda.

***MOTION By MR.DONEK: TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED AND ASK FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT.***

*Motion Passed With No Objection*

IV. Approval of April 13th, 2016 Harbor Fee Review Committee minutes.

Hearing no objection, the April 13th, 2016 Harbor Fee Review minutes were approved as presented.

V. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items – None

VI. Unfinished Business

1. Active Fishing Vessel Discount at Statter Harbor (05 CBJAC 20.044)

Mr. Simpson said this was discussed at the last meeting with a direction to Committee members and staff to come back to this meeting with ideas & suggestions for this regulation. Mr. Donek provided a handout with a few suggestions.

Mr. Uchtyl said this regulation is very contentious because we are not giving a break to all the fishermen. He said, if we assumed we had 100 fishing vessels with a 40' length, at \$4.25 per foot over a 12 month time period residing in Juneau, they would produce a revenue of \$204,000 annually. We would be losing the existing Statter Harbor discount of \$12,500, but we could do away with the active fishing discount all together and just give a 6% discount to the 100 fishing vessels.

Committee Questions

Mr. Simpson asked if this would just be a moorage break to all commercial fishermen with the fishermen just having to show a limited entry permit to prove they are a commercial fisherman?

Mr. Janes asked if that would be for residence or not.

Mr. Uchtyl said this would be for fishermen with reserved moorage. This is almost like a coupon that acts as an incentive. He said he disagrees this is a disincentive to some that don't want to choose to use the coupon. We all have free will.

**CBJ Docks and Harbors Board**  
**Harbor Fee Review Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**For Thursday April 28th, 2016**

Ms. Raster said Mr. Mosher and Mr. Blattner provided her with their recommendations. She said;

Mr. Blattner recommended to give the 20 days free rental at Statter Harbor to the commercial fishermen that sell local, and 15 days to the commercial fishermen that sell to vendor's of choice. The commercial fishermen would have to pay a year in advance, and let them moor at Auke Bay in the winter because there is space anyway.

Mr. Mosher recommended to give the 20 days free rental at Statter Harbor to the commercial fishermen by just showing the limited permit card. Have a requirement to show their driver's license to prove residency, have free winter moorage, and the 20 days only apply April through October in the busy season.

Mr. Simpson said he is assuming when they talk about free winter moorage this would apply to commercial fishermen that have paid a year in advance for downtown moorage.

Ms. Raster said yes.

Mr. Simpson said this isn't actually free, but waiving the Statter Harbor separate fee.

Mr. Unruh asked if the free moorage in the winter was for the commercial fleet or everyone?

Ms. Raster said this would be for the commercial fishermen that have annual downtown moorage.

Mr. Unruh asked if there is 20 days free moorage given in the summer and free moorage in the winter, why don't we give the free moorage to any stall holder that wants to come out to Statter Harbor?

Mr. Janes said he does not recommend the commercial fishermen provide proof of significant fish landings. However, he said he does recommend that the owner provide proof of local residency with a current utility bill or a voter registration and payment of a year in advance which would then provide the 20 days free moorage at Statter Harbor during the summer. He feels strongly that we need to do everything we can to encourage our local fishermen.

Mr. Simpson clarified that Mr. Janes recommended just local fishermen as opposed to selling local.

Mr. Janes said yes, get rid of the requirement to sell local because it is problematic, but he does believe in a discount.

Mr. Borg said staff recommends to leave the regulation as is because it works and it is simple. Mr. Borg said he likes Mr. Donek's option "A" which is to keep it as is but clarify to receive this discount you need to be paid a year in advance. He said currently when anyone is required to provide paperwork on anything, (i.e. Registration for additional launch ramp permit), it is a battle. People just don't want to provide anything extra.

**CBJ Docks and Harbors Board**  
**Harbor Fee Review Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**For Thursday April 28th, 2016**

Mr. Janes said that was when a commercial fisherman had to sell to a local fish processor. He asked Mr. Borg if people would bring in a voter's registration or utility bill that proves they live here for 20 days free moorage.

Mr. Borg said he can't say for certain but currently people don't want to bring in their trailer registration to be able to get another launch ramp permit for free. People end up arguing that we sold them one last year and it ends up a fight at the counter.

Mr. Janes suggested to not give them one at that point.

Mr. Borg said he just wants to keep down the drama and a fight at the front counter. Everything we do is a learning curve and the way the regulation is now is working.

Ms. Raster said there are approximately 100 boats eligible. In the last three and a half years since she has worked for Docks & Harbors, only six people disagree with providing their fish tickets.

Public Discussion

Charles Blattner, Juneau, AK

He said the money he pays for moorage in Auke Bay, is money that he could be using on his family.

Mr. Janes asked why he doesn't sell local?

Mr. Blattner said it was because he didn't know any better. He is new to the business, and he didn't know how to get into the business. He went to someone and they said they would set him up. He didn't know the politics when he got involved and thought the moorage would be the same for Statter Harbor and downtown. This was an expensive lesson. However, that being said, he thought it was bad business to tell this person who helped him he wouldn't do business with him anymore because it would cost him more money.

Amanda Mosher, Juneau, AK

She said Tim (Robert) Mosher is her father and asked her to come today. She said she is a permit holder and goes fishing every year. She does not believe she should be asked to sell her fish to certain people. It is not Docks & Harbors business who she sells fish to. It is especially frustrating in the winter months when the Harbor is wide open.

Mr. Janes asked if it would be difficult for her to bring in a current voter registration or a local utility bill to show residency?

Ms. Mosher said she would be much more willing to bring those items versus her fish tickets.

Mr. Blattner said he would bring in those items also.

Committee Discussion/Action

Mr. Lowell asked if the numbers Mr. Uchtyl provided included the annual discount for the downtown moorage?

**CBJ Docks and Harbors Board**  
**Harbor Fee Review Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**For Thursday April 28th, 2016**

Mr. Uchytel said it does not.

Mr. Simpson said there are several options at the table. He said he hears the concerns from the people who testified as well as staff. This is a hard question. He said currently there is an appropriate connection between the policy as it stands now which requires using the local fish processor because it was originally/is based on the fact that we receive revenue from the fish tax from those deliveries. Docks & Harbors does not receive fish tax revenue from commercial fishermen that sell their fish elsewhere. He said there has been testimony that suggests that the City has this to keep commercial fishermen from selling elsewhere, or dictating who they can do business with. He does not find that to be the case because they are doing business elsewhere and it is not costing them more, but they are just not receiving the discount. The discount is designed as an incentive to do something but is not a penalty for failure to do something. Mr. Simpson supports Mr. Donek's option "A" which is to keep the current regulation the same except to require the paid up annual moorage to be in place so this is not offered to monthly tenants. He wanted to remind people also that Docks & Harbors is also working on offering a greater discount for paying annual moorage which will be going to 10%. In regards to the privacy issue with showing the fish tickets, staff doesn't need to see anything on the fish ticket other than where the delivery was made.

Mr. Lowell said he agreed with Mr. Simpson as far as the fish tax and the incentive. He said it should be looked at as an incentive and not a disincentive. He suggested to not break the tie between the fish tax and the discount.

Mr. Simpson said there is a discount offered for all the locals and that is the 10% discount for paying annual moorage which only locals would have.

Mr. Donek said from his options, the ones he preferred is to keep it as is or delete it. His third option which opens up a discount to all commercial fishermen is one he does not agree with. If you start offering one user group a discount, where will it stop? He said he struggles with the lack of information. We know we gave out \$12,500 for the discount, but we don't know what the fish tax was.

Mr. Simpson said we do know there was a fish tax and it only came in from the local fish landings. It is impossible to identify what amount of fish tax comes from what boats.

Mr. Uchytel said we know the fish tax amount which was approximately \$385,000 last year.

Mr. Simpson said it is a substantial amount, and the boats this discount applies to is part of that revenue for Docks & Harbors. There is a financial difference between these commercial fishermen and the average recreational boater, and that is the rationale behind this discount. Mr. Simpson said if it weren't for the raw fish tax, he would not be inclined to offer this discount at all.

**CBJ Docks and Harbors Board**  
**Harbor Fee Review Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**For Thursday April 28th, 2016**

**MOTION By MR. DONEK: TO MAKE NO CHANGE TO THE REGULATION EXCEPT TO CLARIFY THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE MOORAGE MUST BE PAID A YEAR IN ADVANCE. ALSO TO INSTRUCT STAFF THEY ONLY NEED TO SEE THE PROCESSOR NAME, BOAT NAME, AND DATE ON THE FISH TICKET AND HAVE THIS GO TO THE REGULAR BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION AND ASK UNANIMOUS CONSENT.**

Mr. Janes objected for further discussion. He said he knows there is more to a business relationship than just what is on paper. He said some fishermen may use a certain fish processor because they do a better job. He doesn't like the idea of forcing or having an incentive to sell local. He doesn't like having the incentive there if it compromises our fishermen's business patterns and business principles. He said this should not be our responsibility. He would an even playing field and recommends having no incentive at all which is Mr. Donek's option "C".

Mr. Uchytel said he didn't think this has gone to the OPS/Planning meeting yet.

Mr. Donek said it could go to OPS/Planning.

Roll Call Vote –

Mr. Donek – Yes

Mr. Lowell – Yes

Mr. Janes – No

Mr. Simpson – Yes

Motion Passes

Mr. Simpson said this will move forward to the next OPS/Planning meeting.

VII. New Business – None

VIII. Future Business –

1. Residence Surcharge (05 CBJAC 20.050)

Mr. Donek suggested to not take up the fees and start the discussion on live-aboards.

Mr. Simpson said after the discussion is completed, then address the fees.

Mr. Donek said he doesn't know if we are losing money on this or not at this time.

Mr. Simpson noted the sanitation issues that are involved with the live-aboards. This may be the time to phase in requirements to address the problem with marine sanitation. Have the pump out cart go around to empty live-aboard holding tanks and charge for that service. The boats that can't move and can't go to the pump out, we all know where their sewage is going. He recommended this item go to the OPS/Planning meeting.

IX. Next Harbor Fee Review Meetings –

Mr. Simpson said the Committee will suspend meetings for the summer.

**CBJ Docks and Harbors Board**  
**Harbor Fee Review Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**For Thursday April 28th, 2016**

- X. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 12:44 pm