

Town of Tisbury
Harbor Management Committee
Meeting 10/17/2018

HMC Committee Members Present: Jerry Goodale, Jeff Robinson, Matt Hobart, Jeff Canha.

Others Present: Lynne Fraker, Nat Benjamin, John Crocker, Phil Hale, Laura Rose and Kim Elias

Meeting Commenced at 5:00PM

First item was to approve the minutes of September 19, 2019, all were in favor.

Next was to discuss items in the recommendations to the Tisbury Waterways Regulations that were sent to the Harbor Management Committee by the Town Selectmen.

The subject regarding the definition of active vessel was discussed at length as it was determined that the initial recommendation to the Selectmen was too vague in nature. After discussion there was a motion which was seconded to make the following recommendation to the Tisbury Waterways Regulations:

Definition: An inoperable vessel is defined as a vessel whose main source of propulsion is designed to be an engine and which is incapable of being operated under its own power, or any vessel whose main source of propulsion is designed to sail and which is unable to be sailed.

No vessel owner or person in charge thereof shall keep at a mooring an inoperable vessel for more than 30 days in any year unless an extension is granted by the Harbormaster.

At the Harbormaster's request all vessels shall be required to leave its mooring and transit the body of water in which it is moored and return to its mooring to prove the vessel is operable under its own power. (All were in favor.)

In addition it was suggested that a notification be sent to all mooring holders either in their annual mooring fee bill or their inspection reminder regarding the new regulation if approved. This can be done by adding a flyer in the annual bill or can be done using the web based software program, Mooring Info.

Next discussed was the Use of Vessel as an Abode. To strike the existing statement and insert the previously recommended statement with the exception of striking the last sentence of the previously recommended statement and then additional language relating to pumpout availability and alternative sanitation devices when pumpout services are not available. In addition concern raised that there may be a liability issue to the Town by people living aboard their vessel for long periods of time or year round. There was a motion which was seconded to recommend the following recommendation to changes in the Tisbury Waterways Regulations.

USE of Vessel as an ~~ABODE~~ a Live aboard

~~The use of vessels in Tisbury as a permanent or long term abode is specifically prohibited. Sleeping aboard vessels is allowed as a secondary use to the vessel's principal commercial or recreation use. (i.e. cruising).~~

The Town of Tisbury recognizes that people living aboard their vessels on the towns waterways is an activity that is part of the marine and boating community, as such the Town of Tisbury wish to maintain and preserve this way of life.

~~People living on board their vessels shall adhere to the regulations set forth.~~

People who to choose to live aboard their vessels on a year round basis shall seek the approval of the Harbormaster. Should the Harbormaster give their permission to do so the vessel owner will be required to sign a waiver releasing the Town of Tisbury of any liability. (All were in favor.)

Discussion then followed with respect to the topic of sanitation for those persons using their vessels as an abode. There was a motion which was seconded to recommend additional language under the heading of Sanitation Devices of the Tisbury Waterways Regulations as follows:

All vessels in Tisbury Waterways that are at anchor or mooring shall comply with USCG marine approved sanitation device (MSD) standards and that it functions when pumpouts are not available. (All were in favor.)

Followed, was discussion clarifying the statement regarding houseboats. After discussion it there was a vote which was seconded to recommend the following changes to the Tisbury Waterways Regulations

The Town of Tisbury and its community have determined that its Waterways be used by active, registered or documented, commissioned vessels. ~~The use of vessels in Tisbury Waterways as a permanent or long term abode is prohibited.~~

Definition: A building constructed on a raft barge or hull that is primarily for a single or multifamily habitation; if used for transportation this is secondary.

As of _____(date) no more houseboats will be allowed in the waters of the Inner Harbor. (3 Ayes and 1 abstention).

A motion was made to adjourn at 6:30 pm. (all were in favor)