

Wiscasset Waterfront Committee Minutes
Monday, Sept. 10, 2001

Present: Chairman Don Jones, secretary Phil DiVece, Dave Brown, Joe Piccirillo, and Harbormaster Bill Sutter. Also present was Judy Foss representing Stafford Business Advisors.

Absent: Ken Cooper

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. at the firehouse. Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as written.

The committee voted 4-0 to ask the board of selectmen to have the road commissioner look at the Montsweag Landing Road for any repairs that may be needed. The road provides water access to Montsweag Brook.

The harbormaster said a group of local fishermen have come up with a new design for a mast and boom proposed for the town dock. He recommended to them that they present this plan directly to the board of selectmen. On another matter Sutter noted the Boothbay Harbor Yacht Club had been in contact with him regarding tie-up fees at the town dock.

Ms. Foss shared with the committee a proposed agenda for the planned Sept. 27 public discussion on waterfront issues. Foss will moderate the meeting, which will be held from 7-9 p.m. There will be presentations by one, and possibly two developers. A Wiscasset architect will present some ideas for use of the Creamery Pier area. It is uncertain if there will be presentation on a planned rail-to-barge commercial multi-modal facility at Mason Station on Birch Point. The Maine Dept. of Transportation will send a representative to the meeting to answer questions related to possible bypass and railroad impacts on the waterfront, but MDOT will not be making a presentation.

The following agenda items were proposed:

- Vendors on the Creamery Dock? Theme related?
- Solicit cruise ship business?
- Purchase of the Haggett waterfront property?
- Passenger train station downtown?
- Marina development?
- Future of the waterfront: To build or not to build?

The agenda will be further refined at the committee's Sept. 24 meeting. The board of selectmen will be urged to attend the meeting.

The committee discussed the possible creation of a Waterfront Master Planning Advisory Committee chaired by Stafford and composed of the current Waterfront Committee members plus additional members with specific expertise such as harbormaster, architect, marine engineer, fisherman, waterfront

business owner, recreational boater. Action was postponed until after the public meeting.

The chairman reported that no bids were received by the town for the installation of a sewage pump-out unit at the waterfront. The Committee agreed that this unit, which has sat unopened for a number of years, should be installed as soon as possible. The committee directed the chairman to get copies of the bid specs and mailing lists for the committee to review at the next meeting.

The secretary will try to arrange a tour of the Mason Station grounds for 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 19 and a boat tour of the harbor and Sheepscot River for 4:30 Thursday, Sept. 20. The members will be notified.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm. **The next meeting will be on Monday September 24 in the firehouse meeting room.**