

CONNEAUT PORT AUTHORITY  
929 BROAD STREET  
CONNEAUT, OHIO 44030  
July 15, 2021

Meeting was called to order by Chairman, George Peterson, at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: George Peterson, Patrick Arcaro, Aaron Joslin, Tom Perkoski, Mark Verzella, Babs Legeza, Denver Spieldenner

Also present in the Board room: Jon Arcaro and Keith Jury

ABSENTEE: Bill Kennedy

MINUTES: A motion was made by Mark Verzella to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2021, Board meeting and was seconded by Tom Perkoski. Motion carried.  
Aaron Joslin abstained (he was absent).

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

**Jeff Fees** asked for an update about the electrical issues and was informed that there would be a 30-amp breaker going in on Friday morning to the last set of pedestals on “A” wall in the PCM. This will be a trial run to see if this rectifies the problem. Jeff also spoke about the rumor that no golf carts are allowed on the sandbar. The board informed that it was true; even though the golf carts are permitted on city streets they are not permitted on the sandbar. Jeff also asked about the request about having the “No Wake” buoys put back outside the gap and he was told that they had been placed there earlier that day. Somehow it was overlooked when placing the buoys earlier in the spring. Jeff also questioned the price for public docking being so expensive this year; and the board explained to him that Larry Distelrath sets the price. Larry Distelrath set the rates for the 2021 season at \$80.00 per night for all the docks he leases and the for the use of the face of public dock. George Peterson said that there should be “No” Fee for anyone seeking Safe Harbor; safe harbor is for getting out of bad weather unexpectedly.

CORRESPONDENCE: Denver Spieldenner

- Corps of Engineers report says that they expect the water level for August to be around 12 inches lower this year than in August 2020.
- Overall average for the water level is down over 20 inches from 2019.
- Gas and Electric Meter inspections will be taking place soon.
- Connie Naylor from the Conneaut Convention Visitors Bureau sent the Conneaut Port Authority a thank you card for their ongoing continued support of membership.
- Connie Naylor from the Conneaut Convention Visitors Bureau thanked the Conneaut Port Authority for all their efforts and support in making the Cleveland Moses ceremony

such a great success. Connie also thanked the Conneaut Port Authority for relocating and the new layout of the Cleveland Moses Monument with the flags.

## **CONNEAUT PORT AUTHORITY**

### **HARBORMASTER REPORT JULY 15, 2021**

- **DOCKS**
  - All docks appear to be in good shape at this time.
  - We have recently repaired several 4 x 4 posts on many different docks. These were broken during the last storm event.
  - The Harbor Yak dock has been removed due to weather and wave issues and the fact that Harbor Yak is no longer doing business with us.
- **ELECTRIC**
  - The electric to the sandbar attendants shed has been installed.
  - The electric to the flag pole lights has been installed. These lights are on a timer and will come on at dusk and off at dawn.
  - We have had very few recent electric outages at any of our docks. During the Fourth of July holiday we had no issues that we are aware of.
  - The new electric test unit we purchased to check each boat has arrived and we hope to have it in service shortly.
- **VEHICLES**
  - We have installed running boards on each of the new trucks and have installed a trailer hitch on the F-150.
  - We have applied for gratis license plates for the new trucks and the new trailer.
  - We will scrap the old 1997 pickup truck as soon as we locate the title.
- **MISC.**
  - We are still interviewing people for the sandbar and launch ramp attendants positions as well as maintenance.
  - We are still having issues with deep sand at the sandbar. We have had many vehicles stuck. We advise people that they need four wheel drive to navigate this area. We do not pull people out so they have to call for a wrecker if they are stuck.
  - The three flag poles have been installed at the entrance to Public Dock.
  - The bike racks in front of our office on Broad Street and across from the Breakwall Restaurant are complete.
  - We have ordered six cement trash cans to be used on the outer wall in PCM.
  - The Harbormaster is helping with our Clean Marina certification.
  - We moved the dumpster that was in the Moses Cleveland parking lot to the parking lot at the west end of the PCM Marina. Hopefully this will help with trash issues in this marina.

**Respectfully submitted:**  
**Denver Spieldenner**  
**Harbormaster Conneaut Port Authority**

DOCK REPORT: Sheri Dawson

**PCM**

**PCM** is full.

**LAGOON**

In the **Lagoon** we have 13 empty docks that accommodate boats of 20 feet and under in length. We have three empty docks that could accommodate boats of 21 feet and under in length.

**Jet Ski** docks are all full.

I am still working with Dockholders for updating their Insurance & Registration.

**Launch Ramp**

We have only sold TEN Seasonal Boat Launch Passes.

**Sandbar**

Seems to be moving along smoothly. Weather has not been the best this week.

FINANCE REPORT: Patrick Arcaro

Aaron Joslin made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and it was seconded by Mark Verzella. Motion carried.

Patrick Arcaro made the motion to pay the Current Bills and Tom Perkoski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

LEASE COMMITTEE REPORT: Tom Perkoski

- Discussion about Courtney Forbes from the Conneaut Creek Float & Fly possibly opening a second operation within the Port area. They will be meeting with Courtney and a follow up will be coming soon to the board.
- He informed the board that the Fuel Dock Lease is being redone and will contain a new signer.

GRANTS and PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Aaron Joslin

- The pile of tires has been removed and Aaron thanked Mark Verzella for handling the paperwork and process.
- George asked Aaron to investigate grants for Navigational buoys for in the channel.
- He asked about the PEP grant for \$1,000.00 for the booms; it was received in June.

ADVERTISING/COMMUNICATION: Tom Perkoski

- He explained about working with the Conneaut Moose Lodge on a partnership for the Environmental grants and improvements.
- He spoke about the success with accommodating the Fast Boats on Saturday.
- He provided an update about the ongoing process for the wetlands.
- He told the board that the two signs for Bacteria counts are posted.
- Other signs to be posted are: No Launching and Dangerous Currents
- Future articles that he is working on will contain information about the “Fill-a-Boat” program that the Port will be holding to help provide school supplies for the Conneaut School system students.
- During Labor Day weekend the Port Authority will have collection buckets at local participating businesses.
- The Courier had posted that there was a Boat & Car show being held at the public dock, which was not correct. Once, the Conneaut Port Authority office had been contacted about the event; research was done, and the Courier did a retraction article.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE: Tom Perkoski

- He informed the board that they had received a portion of the Clean Marina Act Certification and he thanked Denver for all his hard work in making this possible. George Peterson asked Tom what needs to be done to complete the certification and Tom said several more steps and one he spoke about is educating boat owners. This will be an ongoing process and more information to come soon.
- He brought up the idea of offering a Boaters Class in Mid-September
- He also explained about Shrink Wrap Recycling
- He spoke about the process taking place for the Moose Lodge Hillside.

OLD BUSINESS: George Peterson

- Mission Statement the board chose the original one and it’s on the Website.
- Huntington Bank account is moving forward, and several steps were completed this week and our checks arrived today.

JON ARCARO:

- July 20, 2021 there will be a Conneaut School Board Meeting to discuss the Security School Officer and he invited board members to attend.
- He informed the board that the Park transfer is being handled by Kyle Smith.
- George asked about the fencing at Lakeview Park and wanted to know since they were told that they could use it on Day Street; that they have changed their mind and would like to use it at the Dean Avenue Park instead.
- Jon Arcaro asked Denver to please contact the street department to get the lines painted down by the Breakwall restaurant parking area/crosswalks. Denver then asked Jon to get the lights fixed down by the parking area for the “B” and “C” area of the Lagoon.

NEW BUSINESS: George Peterson

- Patrick Arcaro made the motion to excuse Bill Kennedy from tonight's meeting, and it was seconded by Mark Verzella. Motion carried.
- Patrick Arcaro made a motion that Dogs will no longer be permitted on the sandbar, and it was seconded by Aaron Joslin. Motion carried.
- It was questioned if we need this added to the existing ordinance or do, we need another ordinance? Referring to "No" dogs in the sandbar area.
- A brief discussion about the dumping of the Port-a-Potty schedule to be checked on.

At 6:55 p.m. Mark Verzella made the motion to go into Executive Session and Patrick Arcaro seconded the motion. Roll Call: George Peterson, Patrick Arcaro, Aaron Joslin, Tom Perkoski and Mark Verzella. Motion carried.

Patrick Arcaro made the motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. and Mark Verzella seconded the motion. Roll Call: George Peterson, Patrick Arcaro, Aaron Joslin, Tom Perkoski and Mark Verzella. Motion carried.

#### **MOTIONS:**

**M21-042...** A motion was made by Mark Verzella to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2021, Board meeting and was seconded by Tom Perkoski. Motion carried.

Aaron Joslin abstained (he was absent for the meeting).

**M21-043...** Aaron Joslin made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and it was seconded by Mark Verzella. Motion carried.

**M21-044...** Patrick Arcaro made the motion to pay the Current Bills and Tom Perkoski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**M21-045...** Patrick Arcaro made the motion to excuse Bill Kennedy from tonight's meeting, and it was seconded by Mark Verzella. Motion carried.

**M21-046...** Patrick Arcaro made a motion the Dogs will no longer be permitted on the sandbar, and it was seconded by Aaron Joslin. Motion carried.

**M21-047...** At 6:55 p.m. Mark Verzella made the motion to go into Executive Session and Patrick Arcaro seconded the motion. Roll Call: George Peterson, Patrick Arcaro, Aaron Joslin, Tom Perkoski and Mark Verzella. Motion carried.

**M21-048...** Patrick Arcaro made the motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. and Mark Verzella seconded the motion. Roll Call: George Peterson, Patrick Arcaro, Aaron Joslin, Tom Perkoski and Mark Verzella. Motion carried.

**M21-049...** At 7:23 p.m. Tom Perkoski made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mark Verzella seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:23 p.m. Tom Perkoski made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mark Verzella seconded the motion. Motion carried.