

**Agenda**  
**Bar Harbor Cruise Ship Committee**  
**Thursday January 9, 2020 @ 1:00 PM**  
**Bar Harbor Municipal Building — Council Chambers**

- I. CALL TO ORDER WITH ROLL CALL**
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (UP TO 15 MINUTES)**
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (December 10, 2019)**
- IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
- V. REGULAR BUSINESS**
  - a. Updated SOP**
  - b. CCNA update**
  - c. Final budget**
  - d. Draft of year-end review report (to include environmental monitoring and Professor Gabe's report)**
  - e. Air monitoring recommendation to Town Council**
- VI. OTHER BUSINESS**
- VII. COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Minutes**  
**Bar Harbor Cruise Ship Committee**  
**Tuesday December 10, 2019 @ 1:00 PM**  
**Bar Harbor Municipal Building — Council Chambers**

**Attendance:**

Chair Eben Salvatore and committee members Stephen Coston (Town Councilor), “Skip” Prentice Strong, Jeff Dobbs (Town Councilor), Katy DeGrass, Jim Willis (Chief of Police), Sandy McFarland, Sarah Flink, Ken Smith and Michele Gagnon (Planning Director).

Amy Powers, Charlie Phippen (Harbormaster), Greg Gordon, and Martha Searchfield were excused.

Presently, there are three vacancies on the committee.

As of August 1, 2019, Skip Strong and Amy Powers are non-voting members. Ms. Gagnon did not vote. Therefore, the voting membership for the meeting was eight.

Town staff in attendance included Manager Cornell Knight, Stan Harmon, and Katie Rodgers.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Salvatore called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

**II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mr. Willis made a motion to adopt the agenda as prepared. Mr. Dobbs seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (October 24, 2019)**

Mr. Dobbs made a motion to adopt the minutes from the October 24, 2019 meeting. Mr. Willis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

James O’Connell asked why is it that the town works to accommodate cruise ship passengers when the cruise ship industry is not a good steward of the environment.

**V. STAFF REPORTS**

Mr. Willis explained that he adjusted the FY 2021 Police Department budget to mirror how the department operated this past season. He added that his plan is to have one dedicated police officer down at the harbor on cruise ship days. He added that this is consistent with the recently submitted CLIA report.

**VI. REGULAR BUSINESS**

- a. Air emission monitoring at the harbor and recommendation to the Town Council**

Mr. Salvatore referred to an informal cruise ship analysis that was part of the package back in 2015 which included information on air emission monitoring. Mr. Dobbs mentioned that the best place to measure air emission would be Schoodic. It was decided that Mr. Salvatore would report to the Council on what the cruise ship committee has learned. Mr. Salvatore also mentioned that Jane Disney will be the scientific representative for the committee.

**b. Professor Gabe's Study**

Todd Gabe, a Professor of Economics at the University of Maine, presented his research on the effects of cruise ship passengers on sidewalk pedestrian traffic in Bar Harbor. The paper will be submitted to an academic journal. He gathered data based on the principle of the moving observer over a distance of 100 feet. He found a correlation (as expected) between cruise ship passengers and pedestrian traffic on the sidewalks. The impacts of cruise ship passengers disappears at about 2,000 feet from Harbor View Park. The more cruise ship passengers there are, the slower the walking speed. This is felt within 1,400 feet from Harbor View Park. On average, using a weighted method, within 100 feet of Harbor View Park, Mr. Gabe observed three people on non-cruise ship days and was able to cover the 100-foot distance in 20 seconds. He observed 11 people on cruise days with the 3,500-passenger cap and covered the distance in 22 seconds; and finally he observed 12 people on cruise ship days with the 4,200-passenger cap and covered the distance in 25 seconds.

Jill Goldthwait mentioned that, in her experience, there are a lot more than 12 people within arm's length on cruise ship days. Mr. Gabe explained that this number is weighted across the entire year (12 months) and the entire tourism district, thus providing a baseline. For example, he said that one of the data count (not weighted) showed 54 people within 100 feet on Cottage Street after 7 PM. And, at that time, his walking speed dropped to 1.6 feet per second.

Stephanie Clements from Friends of Acadia asked for unweighted data. She would like to have the average number of passengers there is within 100 feet only during the summer months.

There was also interest in knowing what the impacts are when exceeding the passenger cap in August.

**c. CLIA budget comments**

Mr. Salvatore acknowledge an email dated October 23, 2019 was received regarding passenger fees.

**d. FY 2021 Budget review**

Town Manager Cornell Knight explained the changes to the proposed FY 2021 budget dated 12/9/2019.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Mr. O'Connell made comments (consistent to an email he sent the committee on 12/8/2019).

**VIII. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

- a. Updated SOP
- b. CCNA update
- c. Final budget
- d. Draft of year-end review report (to include environmental monitoring and T. Gabe's report)

**IX. SET MEETING DATE AND TIME**

The next meeting was scheduled for January 9, 2019 at 1:00 PM.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 PM by a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Dobbs. It passed unanimously (8-0).**