

Marine Facilities Coordinator (MFC) Quarterly Staff Report

Ben Sadler, Marine Facilities Coordinator / Harbormaster

Monday, December 14th, 2020

My last quarterly report was at the September 21st General Meeting, and my next report will be at the June 14th General Meeting.

General Day to Day

As in all my quarterly reports, I will be separating the Harbormaster position from the MFC portion for clarity on specific tasks performed.

Harbormaster

In my role as Harbormaster, I've spent the last few months preparing our marine facilities for winter. On October 6th, Fairweather Construction and I moved two skiff floats from their summer location at the Gustavus Multi-modal Dock Facility to their winter spot in the Salmon River Boat Harbor. On November 3rd, we were able to move the two remaining skiff floats there as well. Because of the late date, we were forced to tow the floats one at a time and were met with foul weather which caused the process to go much slower and did not go nearly as smoothly as this process has gone in the past. On November 4th, Joe Vanderzanden, Don Bryant, and myself were able to secure the ramp to the steel floats using two 3-ton chain hoists the City purchased for this purpose. This process went smoothly and will be the way we perform this task going forward into the future. On November 6th, the Gustavus Dray, Joe Vanderzanden, and myself were able to move the steel float to its winter location in Bullmoose Cove. Although this process also went smoothly, one collar tie did break when we opened it to free it from the pile. I have been in contact with the State and they are working out a plan for getting it fixed, as well as reinforcing the other collar ties before we move it back to the dock next spring. I'd like to thank Joe Vanderzanden, Don Bryant, Mike Halbert, Elm Robichaud, Toshua Parker, Zach Lenning, and Geordy Ewing for all their help this year with this process. I have also continued to monitor the Dock and Boat Harbor and continued to maintain the restrooms at the Beach and Salmon River Park. We were forced to lock the trash receptacles on Oct 19th because of dumping by a few members of the community. We have also had a few issues with vandalism at the Beach. I have continued to replace signs and

posts which have been stolen or destroyed by community members. The Gustavus Beach sign was torn out of the ground and broken and is currently being fixed so that I can put it back up once the ground allows.

Marine Facilities Coordinator

In my role as MFC, I have gotten funding from the City Council to repair the base of the launch ramp in the Salmon River Boat Harbor. Although we were unable to get funding for transforming the Barge landing into a usable ramp for landing crafts, we were able to start the conversation and hope to see this project moving forward in the future. Other projects still on hold are the Fish Waste Disposal Station in the Salmon River Boat Harbor and the continuation of the Salmon River harbor clean-up project. No major work was done on either this summer. The Marine Facilities Advisory Committee is working on plans for how to move forward on these in the future. Currently, I am working with the MFAC to edit and update Title 8 of the City of Gustavus Code of Ordinances.

I spent a lot of time this fall communicating with concerned community members and the City staff on how long we should leave the floats out. In the end, I believe we waited too long and created problems for ourselves that we would not have encountered had we have acted sooner. I will be recommending that in the future we make October 15th the date that we shoot for and base the final decision on tides and weather. The main issue community members brought to my attention was the fact that, with the new configuration, no floats would be left out over the winter. This is an issue that the MFAC will be looking into and hopefully will be able to make recommendations to the City Council on how we can create a safer situation down at the dock for the winter months once the steel float has been moved.

I also have been working at City Hall and the Library putting up plexiglass, creating kiosks, installing sanitizer and towel dispensers, etc., and other projects as requested by department heads and authorized by the City Administrator and the Mayor. Most of these projects were funded through CARES Act funds.

Thank you

Report completed by BPS on 12/02/2020

