

MacNeil, Jami

From: Anita Smith <anitacrsmith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 04, 2021 12:59 PM
To: MacNeil, Jami
Subject: Re: FW: SHM Rockland LLC - public comments - Smith

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Good afternoon Jami,

Thank you for forwarding the responses from Mr. Sabatini. It is encouraging to hear they have thought about the pump out and dinghy dock issues.

According to Mr. Sabatini, Safe Harbors (SH) does not have a dinghy dock yet. Please describe how the SH customers utilize the restrooms and laundry if they are on a mooring and there is no dinghy dock. Please also show the proposed dinghy dock on the figures. The dinghy dock should be sufficient size to assume one dinghy per mooring ball. I see boaters who are on SH moorings using the Town Dock, probably because it is closer to the shops, Farmer's Market, dumpster, etc. and I expect this will continue even after SH installs their overdue dinghy dock.

If I am "misunderstanding", then would it be possible to get a better plan than the two figures provided in the proposal? According to the figures in the proposal, the red, dashed lines show what is proposed. If this is indeed correct, then I see the western SH docks (lower left in the figures, which both omit a north line) constructed within 50 feet of the Town Dock (what I interpret as that labeled "Existing Municipal Wharf"), and also restricts access to the town mooring field from the Town Dock by extending docks to the north. This restriction is a safety concern because it would require small dinghy craft to cross through the Turning Basin and travel through the Federal Channel, which are usually used by larger craft. The configuration now, prior to expansion, allows dinghies a safer route by avoiding the Federal Channel and Turing Basin.

I am interested, also, in seeing the proposed "Public Viewing Area", which I have not been able to identify on the figures provided.

Thank you for your responses and I look forward to some further clarification.

Anita Rigassio Smith

On Tue, Aug 3, 2021 at 3:00 PM MacNeil, Jami <Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov> wrote:

Ms. Smith,

The applicant has provided a response (in red text, below) to your concerns regarding the impact of the proposed marina expansion on existing recreational and navigational uses in the project vicinity. Please review and let me know if this satisfies your concerns on this aspect of the project, or if you have additional comments pertinent to the Department's review.

Best,

-Jami MacNeil (she/her)

Environmental Specialist III

Bureau of Land Resources

Maine Department of Environmental Protection

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From: Michael Sabatini <mike@landmarkmaine.com>

Sent: Monday, August 02, 2021 3:27 PM

To: MacNeil, Jami <Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov>

Subject: RE: SHM Rockland LLC - public comments - Smith

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Jami,

Below is a response to Ms. Smith's comment #2, shown in **Red**.

In reading her comments, I think she may be looking at the plans I inserted in the narrative that show a project of much greater scope. I hope this helps and feel free to call if you would like to discuss further.

Regards,

Michael J. Sabatini, P.E.

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From: MacNeil, Jami <Jami.MacNeil@maine.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 12:16 PM
To: Michael Sabatini <mike@landmarkmaine.com>
Subject: SHM Rockland LLC - public comments - Smith

Hi Mike,

The Department received the attached comments from an interested person regarding the proposed marina expansion in Rockland Harbor. The commenter has laid out three questions. Question #2 is pertinent to the Department's review regarding the impact of the project on existing recreational and navigational uses. Please provide a response:

2) *From the figures, it appears that the proposed marina expansion takes over the Town Dock and dinghy dock.*

There must be some misunderstanding, the marina expansion only occupies area in front Safe Harbor property and will not affect the Public Landing ("Town Dock").

a) First, I am concerned that the dinghy dock, water, and pump-out will be available only to marina customers. I have seen this happen in other ports (Port Jefferson, NY, for example) that only allow dinghies to land at private docks. The average cruiser who anchors cannot come ashore and the residents are forced to pay some sort of permit fee to the marinas. Where will these facilities be relocated and how will the average cruiser come ashore, get a pump-out, etc.?

The dinghy and pump out services at the Public Landing will not be affected by Safe Harbor's expansion. Transient boaters not staying at the Safe Harbor facility will be able to use the Public Landing facilities if they choose.

b) Second, restricted access will discourage cruisers and also make the waterfront inaccessible to residents like myself. How does this help the local businesses and city overall?

The Safe Harbor expansion in no way will restrict public access, in fact, the pier extension will increase waterfront access for the general public and provide a new public viewing area. The additional slip space for transient boaters will encourage increased visitation to Rockland and will likely increase activity for local businesses.

c) Third, Safe Harbor has already installed many moorings in the harbor but has not provided additional dinghy dock space. The dinghy dock is now overcrowded. What is being done to alleviate the overcrowded dinghy dock?

Clients utilizing Safe Harbor moorings are utilizing Safe Harbor facilities, in general, not town facilities. They are utilizing our dedicated rest rooms laundry and courtesy cars. We are planning on allocating some dinghy tie up space for SH clients utilizing SH moorings, as part of this expansion.

Questions #1 and #3 are outside the scope of the Department's review under the NRPA, and we will not require a response. However, the Department recommends you provide a response as a courtesy to the commenter. I will leave that up to you.

Thank you,
Jami

-Jami MacNeil (she/her)

Environmental Specialist III

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