

Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee
Town Hall
Minutes

Date: December 14, 2016

Members Present: Bruce McIntosh Ed Handy (Alternate), Martin Skip Tomassian

Other people present: Charlie Blair – Harbor Master, Richard Barbini – Agent
Steve Ewing

Next Meeting Date: January 11, 2016

Meeting Opened: 3:06PM

1) Call to Order

2) Conway Pier Extension 75 Edgartown Bay Rd. – *Agent Barbini*

The application was to put an ell on the existing pier and relocate the licensed float to an inner spile.. The adjacent pier was 155 ft. away and the ell would not extend the dock further out into the Harbor. Harbormaster Charlie Blair having no objections:

• *MARTIN SKIP TOMASSIAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE EXISTING CONWAY PIER ELL EXTENSION REQUEST BE APPROVED AS PROPOSED AND TO SEND A LETTER TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO THAT EFFECT; ED HANDY SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

3) Witchwood Association Pier Floats – *Agent Barbini*

The Association existing spile and pier, which served about 9 or 10 lots in the development, had two floats on north side (Rorer property abutters). The Committee discussed shared docks for developments. Harbormaster Charlie Blair having no objections:

• *MARTIN SKIP TOMASSIAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THE EXISTING WITCHWOOD PIER FOUR ADDITIONAL FLOATS REQUEST BE APPROVED AS PROPOSED AND TO SEND A LETTER TO THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION TO THAT EFFECT; ED HANDY SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

4) Harbor Master Plan Expanded Implementation Report Update (See documents on file.)

6) Harbormaster Update

Charlie Blair was working with Steve Ewing on the Harbor Regulations, which were in need of a comprehensive update since some were old and occasional amendments had not been incorporated properly. These regulations were also incorporated into the Harbor Plan.

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- The Harbormaster gave a brief historical overview and described the situation leading to the current proposal.
- His first year as Harbormaster the marina income was \$83,000. There was a big court case with Edgartown Marine that resulted in a sale that increased private moorings (i.e. Town locations with owner provided tackle), so the second year marina income was \$155,000. FY17 income was expected to top \$700,000—of which \$150,000 was dock rentals.
- The wait list was \$20 for two years, and mooring permits were ~\$175 per year. The wait for a mooring was long:
 - Inner Harbor – 25 years,
 - Katama – 7 years,
 - Eel Pond – 5 years,
 - Sengekontacket – openings available.
- Mooring owners had to use their moorings at least 21 days of the year or inform the Harbormaster. Owners also had to inform the Harbormaster when the mooring was vacant (Harbor staff monitored and enforced use) so that the Harbor could rent to transient clients.
- If a mooring was unused for two years the Town took the mooring after due notice.
- Currently when a mooring was attached to a property, and the property was sold the new owner could jump the wait list.
- Steve Ewing proposed a change to this last regulation as follows: when a house was sold the new owner had to give up the mooring and go on the wait list.
- If the mooring was designated as attached or tagged to the house, the new owner would be allowed to rent the mooring at the market price, until they reached the top of the wait list at which time they would pay the standard permit fee.
- If the new owner's boat was inappropriate for the house mooring the Harbormaster committed to finding another more suitable mooring.
- The Committee discussed the implications of the matter.
- The old owner might not want to give up the mooring when a property was sold.
- The Harbormaster could implement a seasonal wait list.
- The Harbormaster needed some discretion and purview on the regulations.
- The updated regulations would be passed by Town Counsel and the Selectmen.
- Charlie Blair also expressed his frustration with absent boat owners who failed to properly secure their boats for storm season—leaving sails and equipment on board, insufficient anchoring, no pennants, etc. so Harbor staff had to put on extra lines or even chains to prevent the boats from breaking free and destroying other vessels in the vicinity. Mooring regulations could be amended to include a liability waiver, and a provision such as:
 - a mooring permit can be revoked if a boat is not properly secured in the opinion of the Harbormaster. Owners are required to designate and register a caretaker, shipyard, etc. who is responsible for securing the craft when the owner is absent.
- **IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO ENDORSE TO PROPOSED AMENDMENTS (see below: Actions).**

5) Old Business

b) Fisherman Landing Dinghy Rack Update (See 11/9/16 Minutes p.2 #3b.)

As requested, Steve Ewing spoke to Fisherman's Landing co-owner, Phil Jackson who was receptive to the idea of a lease and a rack, but more concerned about his neighbor as her

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house was closer and people hung around on her beach and walked on her pier. Mr. Jackson asked that, before proceeding with any dinghy rack, the following issues be addressed:

- Dinghies that did not belong at the Landing be eliminated or shifted elsewhere—this might require a change of dinghy stickers so that they designated tie up options, and or a brochure issued with the sticker explaining dinghy regulations.
- Dinghies could be launched, used, landed and removed from any landing, but not left there.
- The area should be regularly cleaned up of any derelicts and refuse.
- The Committee discussed:
 - Aquaculture equipment, which gave a false impression of public use;
 - Dinghy rack extension beyond the 50 ft. easement;
 - advocacy for the Landbank to acquire more property in the area;
 - posting the area with guidelines.

5) Dredge Representative Report - None

8) New Business/Public Comment - None

- The Town Holiday Party was at 4:00PM today at the Water Company, 58 Kavanaugh Way.

9) Committee Business

a) Approval of Minutes (11/9/16)

- *ED HANDY MOVED TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 9, 2016 MINUTES; MARTIN SKIP TOMASSIAN SECONDED: MOTION PASSED: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTION—MARTIN SKIP TOMASSIAN* due to absence.

10) Adjourn

- *The meeting adjourned at 4:04PM.*

Documents on File

- Agenda 12/14/16
- Plans to Accompany Petition of Witchwood Association to Amend License #10517 11/28/16
- Plans to Accompany Petition of Karen Swett Conway to Amend License #12106 (2 p.)
11/16/16
- Taylor email re: Edg. Marine Advisory Bd. Harbor Plan Update 11/28/16

Actions:

- Harbor Plan Update - JoAnn Taylor – coordinate with Charlie Blair on updated Harbor/Mooring regulations.
- Steve Ewing/Charlie Blair – bring mooring amendments in writing
- Marni - cc Planning Bd. on all Marine Advisory votes on piers.
- January Agenda – Mooring Regulations Update.