

Chappy Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting
June 4, 2021
4:00 pm

A meeting of the Committee was held on the above date and time via Zoom. Members present were: Bill Brine, John Dropick, Rick Schifter, Sally Snipes, Tom Tilghman, Peter Wells and Town Administrator, James Hagerty.

The minutes of the meeting of April 28 meeting were approved.

The Committee discussed and then approved the “cut line” policy attached hereto as Exhibit A

Schifter provided an update on the status of the Woods Hole Group’s Draft Adaptation Plans for the ferry. Specifically, they contemplate raising the elevation on the Edgartown and Chappy sides by 12 inches, which they believe could accommodate rising sea levels through at least 2050. They planned to contact Peter Wells to discuss ramifications of that to the current ramps. We were told to expect a final report, including rough cost estimates, by the end of June.

The Committee continued its discussion regarding the discount for “full time” Chappy residents. Although no votes were taken, several Committee members indicated support for modification of the program along the following lines:

1. The “full time” resident discount would be expanded to include all vehicles (i) registered at a Chappy address, (ii) whose owner had a Chappy address on his/her driver’s license and (iii) whose owner resided on Chappy at least 6 months a year.
2. The Town would be responsible for issuing stickers for the cars eligible for the “full time” resident discount.
3. The “full time” resident passenger discount would not be expanded and would be permanently limited to those people who currently qualify for that discount and maintain their eligibility.

The Committee then discussed the need to identify revenue offsets in the event eligibility for the discount is expanded. No conclusions were reached and the discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

Biros reported on a conversation with Sam Hart of the Trustees of Reservations and their willingness to engage with the Committee on issues relevant to our deliberations. No action is contemplated at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.