



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, September 16th, 2021 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Ed Handy, Richard Hamilton, Peter Vincent, Dudley Levick, Ryan Smith

Advisors: Jane Varkonda

Guests: Julie Pringle (GPF), Tara Marden (WHG), Martha Cohan (HCF), Russell Hopping (TTOR), John Brittain (CT)

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to approve the 9/2/21 draft minutes. Rick seconds, no discussion, vote taken and passed 5-0.
- b) The Committee discussed the arrangement between the Trustees and the Town and how the sale of sand will be handled for the Left Fork projects. Jane informed the Committee that there will be an MOU between TTOR and the Town. The Trustees are contributing the \$90,000 match in its entirety, the Town will not pay anything as long as the project stays within the budget. The Dredge will be reimbursed for dredging work and any work involving spreading sand on the beach, and the sand will be sold by the Dredge Committee to the TTOR at cost. Tara stated that this is not a revenue generating project for the town, it's a resiliency project. Ed brought up that sand has been sold to other entities over the past couple years for a set rate and wondered if it would be an issue to sell to the Trustees for less. Tara stated that this is a town project and Edgartown was included on the grant application; the residents of Edgartown will benefit from this project that will protect Left Fork for many years. The Committee agreed that was adequate justification to sell the sand at cost to TTOR.
- c) The Committee received a letter from the Landowner's Association at Herring Creek Farm regarding the request for over-sand vehicle access, should the dredge go back into the Great Pond this winter. The letter included five questions with answers requested. The Committee discussed the responses to those questions and asked Juliet to draft a response letter from the Committee.
- d) The Committee then returned to the Left Fork project discussion and how to go about getting dredged sand to the project site. If the dredge is in Great Pond, the sand will need to be trucked, which may involve building a haul road, offloading the sand into the parking lot and reloading it onto road trucks to transport to Left Fork. Tara and Ed will meet on site next week to discuss further. Tara described the budget for the project and clarified the amount of sand needed. The Committee also discussed the procurement process that would need to be conducted for trucking services.

- e) The Committee then discussed the Katama Bay project for which it received \$240,000 in grant funds from the Seaport Economic council. Tara submitted a proposal from the Woods Hole Group to perform the field work and engineering and stated that they would like to get started as soon as possible because the eel grass survey needs to be done while weather permits.
- f) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to approve the Woods Hole Group's proposal to provide services to expand the existing comprehensive permit to certain locations in Katama Bay and also to authorize Juliet to sign the proposal. Dudley seconds the motion, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 5-0. Juliet will confirm with the Town Administrator that she can sign the proposal.
- g) The Committee then moved on to discussion of how to proceed at Lighthouse Beach. Tara stated that an eel grass survey was completed and there was none found, which makes the project much easier to permit. She continued that the application to MEPA to file an ENF would be around \$37,000. If the Committee wanted to pursue any kind of semi-permanent structure, there would have to be additional engineering completed (about \$20,000). The Committee discussed the options and associated costs. Rick stated that the Committee had already decided to move forward with a permit for dredging, and not a semi-permanent structure, and thinks that the Committee should stay the course previously agreed upon. The Committee agreed.
- h) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to proceed with the ENF for dredging Lighthouse beach and to ask Woods Hole Group for a formal proposal to put that together. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 5-0.
- i) No bills this week.
- j) The Committee asked Juliet to draft a thank you letter to all those involved in putting together the SEC grant application for Katama Bay.
- k) Jane informed the Committee that she sent out preliminary letters to Ch. 91 and the Army Corps to get in the queue for permit renewals.
- l) The Committee then addressed John Brittain, member of the Cracktuxet Trust. He stated that the Trust would like to submit the same questions submitted by the HCF LOA and would like to be included in the response. He said permission to drive over the beach would be contingent upon a commitment from the Committee to protect the dunes.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare