



Town of Edgartown Fisherman's Landing Stewardship Committee Meeting Minutes

August 6th, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Fisherman's Landing Stewardship Committee (FLSC) was called to order at 10:06am on Friday, August 6th, 2021 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Peter Vincent, Steve Ewing, Jane Varkonda, Ed Handy, Ken Michel, Paul Bagnall

Guests: Liza Henderson (Abutter), Katie Donahue (Donor's Representative)

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) Peter asked Jane how the site plan was coming along. Jane said she was hoping to have it today but looks like it won't be completed until next week.
- b) The FLSC decided to hold their next meeting in one week, in the hopes that a completed site plan can be discussed at that time.
- c) Motion placed on the floor by Steve to approve both sets of draft minutes, from 7/9/21 & 7/23/21. Ed seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 5-0. Paul abstains.
- d) Peter asked the Committee to share any comments or suggestions regarding the proposed improvements for the area. Paul stated that a gate of some kind, whether keyed or electronic, would be a good solution for the area. He added that the gate should be positioned in such a way that the entire length of the car can get completely off the road before having to enter a code or use a key.
- e) The Committee discussed possible landscape designers who might be interested in putting together a design plan for the area, including native planting, green screening, and reworking the parking area. Jane made a couple suggestions including Ms. Reimann from the Landbank.
- f) Motion placed on the floor by Steve to have Jane and Juliet reach out to some landscape designers to get a sense of how much this will cost. Ken seconds the motion and the Committee discussed the best course of action. Ed asked if more information was needed before involving a designer. Steve stated that the Committee would have to come up with a pencil sketch, at the very least, to figure out how things like the parking should be oriented; he also stated that Jane and Juliet should solicit quotes from multiple people. Jane added that if the number of parking spaces increases to more than 9, the MV Commission will get involved. Steve suggested a design-as-you-go approach, with discussion enhanced by professional ideas. Ed said that a larger loading area could be more beneficial than additional parking; Jane agreed, stating that there is plenty of parking nearby. After further discussion, the motion was amended to include the solicitation of quotes for an electronic gate as well. Ken seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and approved 6-0.
- g) The Committee discussed who has access to the property. It is just the mooring permit holders, or can anyone store a canoe or kayak there? Peter stated that it would be good to get a legal opinion on who can access/use the land when the use of public funds are involved. That will be an important part of putting together a successful land management plan.

- h) The Committee discussed whether a handicap accessible parking spot would be a requirement.
- i) The Committee discussed different options for fencing and green screening for the adjacent private properties.
- j) The Committee revisited the discussion about who should have access to the property. Originally, the intent was to give access to fishermen. Should there be limited access, only available to mooring owners? The consensus was that there should be some limitation on access and use and there is just not enough space to make it a public park. Peter will ask the Selectboard to get town counsel involved before moving forward with this discussion.
- k) Peter opened up the meeting to public comment. Ms. Henderson stated that she was concerned about what she was hearing with regard to full public access, as this was never in question when the land was originally donated; the intent was always to keep the area quiet and with limited public access. She stated that better signs were needed because often she finds that people do not know that they are not supposed to be there. She also had concerns about a party that was thrown on the beach a few nights prior, and hopes safety is not an issue for her and her family. She suggested that law enforcement serve as “a benevolent eye, not an authoritarian eye”. Steve asked Ms. Henderson to make a list of her concerns and if she has any recommendations for addressing those concerns. Ms. Donahue said she would speak to the Erhards and have them also put together a list.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:40am.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare