



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

May 12th, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:01pm on Thursday, May 12, 2022 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Ed Handy, Dudley Levick, Rick Hamilton, Peter Vincent

Advisors: Jane Varkonda

Guests: Chuck Fisher, Julie Pringle, Tara Marden

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) A motion was made by Peter to approve the 4/28/22 draft minutes. Rick seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 4-0.
- b) The Committee welcomed Mr. Chuck Fisher, Shellfish Constable for the Town of Oak Bluffs. Mr. Fisher told the Committee that the channel under the Little Bridge [along State Beach/Beach Rd] is in need of dredging; the town dredges mechanically with an excavator on an annual basis, but the excavator is limited in the areas it can access so the channel needs to be hydraulically dredged every five years or so and that time has come. The channel has filled in enough that Mr. Fisher is concerned about the water quality. Mr. Fisher stated that he is before the Committee to better understand the process of getting on the schedule for the use of Edgartown's dredge and how to go about making the request. He is also interested in dredging Borrow Area #2 to open the area inside the pond and increase water flow. Ed stated that the Edgartown dredge has dredged the channel several times, most recently in 2014, and they would be happy to do so again. He warned that the material at Borrow Site #2 is not compatible nourishment material, so if that area was dredged, the dredged material would have to be disposed of. He explained that, because it is nearly impossible to get the dredge under the bridge to dredge both sides of the channel, it would be easier to dredge outside the bridge one year and go back the following year to dredge on the inside. Mr. Fisher stated that the immediate need is on the outside and that splitting the work across two years would be advantageous. Mr. Fisher and the Committee discussed the cost of the work – a crane would be needed to launch and haul the dredge, a cost of about \$25,000; in addition to that, Oak Bluffs would pay a daily rate of about \$7500 for the use of the dredge (this rate is the rate that was used when Edgartown contracted with Tisbury to dredge Tashmoo Channel). Ed suggested that if Oak Bluffs were to sell the [compatible] dredged sand, they could recuperate some of the costs. Mr. Fisher stated that he needed to look into funding options. Ed asked Mr. Fisher to provide the Committee with additional information on the areas and depths he wants dredged and the Committee can then offer more accurate cost projections. Motion placed on the floor by Peter to add the Little Bridge to the list of dredging locations for the FY23 dredge season, pending Mr. Fisher securing the funding. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 4-0. Mr. Fisher asked for an estimate on how many days it would take; Ed answered that he needs more information on the dredging area but he estimated about a week, depending on weather.
- c) Ms. Marden joined the meeting.
- d) Ed informed the Committee that he and Juliet had met with Doug Cameron of the Department of Fish and Game, to discuss the Katama Landing Project. The State will take the lead on the

project, including handling the bid process, which is set to happen over the summer. There will be an agreement between the Town and State regarding the approval of requisitions and change orders, but the State will mostly handle the project administration with Juliet being the point of contact for the Town. The project is set to begin next fall, with as little disruption to the Derby as possible.

- e) Ms. Marden updated the Committee on the Katama Bay Dredging Project: the circulation model is almost complete and looks favorable. It's showing an improvement in circulation, which is what the agencies will want to see. There are a couple of proposed channels (the one nearest Norton Beach, and the one nearest Chappy) that are of some concern given their proximity to the barrier and shoreline, respectively. Ms. Marden said they are looking at those carefully and will decide whether or not to include them once the models have been completed. Ms. Marden said they are about 50% complete on the Sampling and Analysis Plan and will be scheduling eel grass surveys during the month of June.
- f) Regarding Lighthouse Beach, Ms. Marden told the Committee that the application has been submitted and the Notice of Project Change has been filed. She anticipates a MEPA site visit or informational zoom.
- g) Ms. Marden informed the Committee that she is working with Jane on another CZM grant application for South Beach.
- h) Ed provided the Committee with an update on the dredge: the hull painting is almost complete except for the deck, they are just waiting on paint to arrive. Once the dredge painting is complete, they will work on the Loader.
- i) Juliet provided the Committee with an update on the budget. Ed informed the Committee that the spare parts package for the dredge is approximately \$27,000.
- j) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.
- k) The Committee discussed a Year-End transfer from Payroll to Operating to help cover the cost of the spare parts and potentially purchase a skiff hull, since the article request to do so was denied by the FinCom/Selectboard. If a new skiff is not purchased prior to next season, expensive repairs will have to be done on the existing skiff. The Committee discussed leaving a sufficient balance in the Payroll account to cover the rest of the year and to request the remainder be transferred to the Operating budget.
Motion placed on the floor by Peter to authorize Juliet to fill out and submit the End of Year Transfer paperwork. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 4-0.
- l) Ed told the Committee he had filled out a Performance Evaluation for Juliet and presented it for review. The Committee had no modifications to make.
- m) Rick informed the Committee that this is his last meeting as he is moving to Falmouth and can no longer serve. The Committee thanked him for his service and asked him if he had any thoughts on a good replacement. He said he would consider it and let them know.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare