



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

June 9th, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, June 9, 2022 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

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

Advisors: Jane Varkonda

Guests: Julie Pringle

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) A motion to approve the 5/12/22 draft minutes was made by Peter and seconded by Dudley. No further discussion, vote taken and passed 4-0.
- b) A motion to approve the 5/26/22 draft minutes was made by Peter and seconded by Dudley. No further discussion, vote taken and passed 3-0. Ryan abstains.

- c) The Committee discussed the dredging sites on the Comprehensive Permit. The discussion was whether or not to remove some of the current sites to reduce the costs of the renewal process.

The Committee started with the dredging sites in Cape Pogue. The recommendation of the Shellfish Committee is to keep all three existing sites: The Gut, The Narrows and Dike Bridge. The Shellfish Constable said that if one of the sites had to go it should be The Gut. Jane stated that the Gut is important for nourishment of nearby public property and should stay. The Committee decided to keep all three sites in Cape Pogue.

Next the Committee discussed the Inner Harbor. Ed stated that there are many stakes that would have to be removed in order to dredge this area. The Committee agreed that this area could be dropped but had concerns that dropping it now would make it much harder to re-permit in the future. The Committee moved on to discuss other locations with the intention of revisiting the Inner Harbor for further discussion.

Collins Beach will stay.

Caleb's Pond does not have viable nourishment material and last time it was dredged was not successful. The Committee opted to remove Caleb's Pond.

The Committee discussed the Katama Channel, the Great Pond Channel, the Sluiceway and Herring Creek. Jane stated that it would be a good move to eradicate the invasive species in Herring Creek. The Committee decided to keep all four sites in Katama and the Great Pond. The Committee discussed the two sites in Sengecontacket. Borrow Site #1 will stay, Borrow Site #2 is no longer a viable dredging location so it will be dropped.

Ed will contact Oak Bluffs to discuss the permitted sites within OB and ask how they would like to proceed. If they want to retain these dredging sites the Committee will discuss with OB officials on how to collaborate financially.

In summary, the Committee decided to drop Caleb's Pond and Borrow Site #2 and will revisit the Inner Harbor.

- d) The Committee then discussed the nourishment sites on the Comprehensive Permit. Jane explained that permitting the nourishment sites is a local process as long as the sand is placed above the high tide line. If DEP has concerns or questions, they contact the Conservation Commission. Ed stated that the nourishment sites are not a concern for the moment, with the

exception of Fuller Street Beach, where the town is permitted to place sand below the high tide line. The Committee will pursue renewal of the permit to place sand below the high tide line on Fuller Street Beach.

- e) Juliet provided the Committee with a budget update and informed them that the FinCom was not able to meet in early June to approve the transfer so that is still unconfirmed. Ed stated that it's too late to try and purchase a skiff before the end of the fiscal year so instead he suggested purchasing additional spare parts for the dredge that will not expire. The Committee agreed that it was important to have these back up parts on-hand. Ed suggested the purchase of a new pump casing and well as some additional dredge pipe. Peter made a motion to approve the purchase of the additional items suggested by Ed. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 4-0.
- f) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.
- g) Ed updated the Committee on the Dredge: there is not much to report, the crew is mostly working their summer jobs.
- h) Jane informed the Committee that she is working on another grant application and asked whether it would worth it for the town to rent a booster pump to get sand from the Great Pond to the dune nourishment location. A booster pump would mean fewer haul trucks running along the beach. Ed said he would reach out to Ellicot for pricing on booster pump rentals and will ask what kind of effect a booster would have on production. Peter asked where the booster pump would be located on the beach and whether it would be an issue to get fuel to its location. He also questioned whether it would be secure in the event of a storm.
- i) The Committee discussed next dredge season. The plan is, tentatively, to go dredge the Little Bridge at the request of the OB Shellfish Constable and then to move to the Great Pond so sand can be provided to the Parks Department for the next phase of their dune restoration effort.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:28pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare