



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

September 1st, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, September 1, 2022 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

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

Guests: John Crocker, Julie Pringle

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to approve the 8/18/22 draft minutes. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 4-0. Ryan abstains.
- b) Juliet informed the Committee that four applications for Seasonal Dredge Crew were received: Donny Benefit, Greg Bettencourt, Peter Jackson and Steven Buckley. These four applicants have all previously worked for the Dredge Dept.
Motion placed on the floor by Peter to recommend the hiring of the four applicants to the Selectboard, and also to recommend an hourly wage rate increase that is reflective of the cost of living increase that other town employees received. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously, 5-0. Juliet will draft a letter to the Selectboard.
- c) The Committee welcomed John Crocker, Tisbury Harbormaster. Mr. Crocker told the Committee he was before them with a request to have the Edgartown dredge return to the Tashmoo Channel for maintenance dredging. He asked whether there was room on the schedule for this year. The Committee discussed whether there was enough time to complete three projects in one dredge season. Because the time of year restrictions are more forgiving in the Great Pond (dredging can occur until April 1), there is probably enough time to do the Little Bridge, Tashmoo Channel and then the Great Pond. The Committee also discussed whether the operating budget would be able to accommodate three projects. Ed told Mr. Crocker that the plan is to get the dredge in the water as soon as the derby ends and if he can get the Dredge Committee a more exact quantity of sand to be dredged from the channel, the Committee can provide a quote. Mr. Crocker asked for a timeframe for the Tashmoo work. Ed said the Little Bridge would probably finish up the end of October, so sometime in the beginning of November the dredge would mobilize to Tashmoo and the whole operating will take about a month. Mr. Crocker confirmed that the permits are in place and that both the dredging and nourishment locations would be very similar to the last time. Ed noted that the increase in the cost of fuel would have to be factored into the daily rate. Mr. Crocker said he would get more specific quantities for dredging and would bring that to the next meeting. Mr. Crocker then departed.
The Committee further discussed the budget and whether there would be any value in the sand. The consensus was that the sand is placed on public beaches as a public benefit, and would be too difficult and costly to truck out of that location for nourishment elsewhere. The Committee discussed the wear and tear on the equipment and that equipment maintenance was factored into the daily rate. Ed also reminded the Committee that the dredge has all new parts and a spare parts package has been ordered.

- d) The Committee then discussed the more general need for sand and where the sand from the Little Bridge will be directed. Jane needs sand for South Beach but the Committee felt that it would be a waste to put 5k CY of sand there when it will just wash out to sea. The Committee discussed the need for sand at South Beach and the continuing and worsening erosion problems. There was some questioning as to whether Jane had secured the permits to build up the dunes at South Beach. Jane had also mentioned finding a location to store sand so that it could be used to respond to an emergency storm event. The Committee decided that they could not make any determinations about sand at South Beach until Jane can fully explain the situation at a meeting.
- e) The Committee reviewed the updated proposal from Woods Hole Group for Lighthouse Beach. Juliet clarified that the amount had not changed, the new proposal provides an updated scope of work based on the feedback that was received from Natural Heritage regarding the bird habitat; they had indicated that a smaller dredging area would be favorable and also that there would need be habitat mitigation somewhere other than Fuller Street Beach as that was not a suitable location. Juliet and the WHG are currently working with the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation to try and use Little Beach (Eel Pond) as the habitat renourishment site. The Committee raised concerns about being locked into a situation where all the sand would have to go to Little Beach; Juliet will confirm with Tara that there will still be sand available for Fuller Street Beach (FSB) after the habitat mitigation at Little Beach. The Committee discussed the budget and options for additional FY23 funding, if needed. Motion placed on the floor by Mike to accept the Woods Hole Group's proposal for Lighthouse Beach, contingent upon the clarification about placement of dredged sand and that sand would still be available for FSB nourishment. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously, 5-0.
- f) The Committee reviewed the insurance proposal submitted by Marsh & McLennan Agency. The cost of the policy increased about \$1,500 from last year. Motion placed on the floor by Peter to accept MMA's insurance proposal. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 5-0.
- g) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.
- h) Juliet informed the Committee that the Selectboard had renamed the Memorial Wharf Committee to the Edgartown Wharf Committee and that they will be taking on North Wharf next.
- i) Ed stated that he had no news on the truck and suggested the Committee wait one more month and then consider looking elsewhere. The truck was ordered in October 2021.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare