



Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

January 12th, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Marine Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:00pm on Wednesday, January 12th, 2022 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Ed Handy, Bruce McIntosh, Martin "Skip" Tomassian

Guests: Bill Roman (EYC), Liz Durkee, Jane Varkonda, Adam Turner, James Hagerty

III. OPEN ISSUES:

Motion placed on the floor by Bruce to approve the draft meeting minutes from 12/29/21. Ed seconds, no discussion, vote taken and passed 2-0. Skip absent at time of vote.

EDGARTOWN YACHT CLUB SEAWALL REPAIRS:

Mr. Roman told the Committee he sent out pictures of the proposed material for the new seawall, called Redi-Rock; it was used at the new Carroll's storage facility if anyone wants to see it in person. The Committee discussed the possibility of a Yacht Club/Town collaboration to apply for grant funding. Mr. Roman stated that he was still waiting to hear back from the contractor on what the total cost of the project will be but he wanted to make sure the Committee was OK with the Redi-Rock application before he put together a project cost sheet.

Skip joins the meeting.

Mr. Roman stated that he is currently estimating the project cost to be around \$400,000, perhaps \$450k.

Jane stated that the MVP program (Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness) might have funds available for this project since the seawall is mentioned in the MVP report. Mr. Roman stated that the public walkway is underwater with extreme tides and weather, and that water funnels into the parking lot area.

James stated that it might be difficult to get money from the MVP program if the plan is just to rebuild, as there would need to be some kind of climate change mitigation involved for the project to qualify. He also stated that using granite would be very expensive; the cost of the granite veneer at North Wharf was around \$250k.

The Committee discussed the overall project timeline with Mr. Roman: first, to figure out the legality of a partnership between the Yacht Club and the Town for the purposes of applying for grant money. Next, the scope needs to be narrowed down and honed before it can be used for bidding. Finally, if grant funding is not made available, there will be an ask for funds at Annual Town Meeting in 2023.

Mr. Roman stated that there are lots of blow-outs in the brick portion of the walkway so he was hoping to get the work done sooner to avoid the continued maintenance costs of repairing the area multiple times. He also said that he wasn't sure the area could be raised but he would definitely like to address the inconsistent elevations as they are a hazard.

James stated that the Town needs to complete other harbor front projects before concentrating on this one, but that the permitting process should definitely be considered now as it could be lengthy.

Mr. Roman stated that the idea would be to not change the footprint at all so that the permitting process would not be required. Jane stated that a change in the footprint, not the elevation, is what

would trigger the need for a permit; she can always consult with contacts at CZM/DEP to get some feedback.

Ed stated that a lot more planning is needed but wanted to confirm that the Committee was all OK with the plan to use Redi-Rock. Skip stated that he would like confirmation that it is suitable for salt water before giving a final answer. Mr. Roman responded that they modify the concrete mix for marine application, so it's a viable option.

Ed asked Mr. Roman what the Committee could do to help. Mr. Roman said he was hoping to get the work done this spring but with the Memorial Wharf project going, he didn't want to take too many public areas out of commission at once; however, since the project will be delayed another year, Mr. Roman said that any assistance the Town could provide for the necessary maintenance (when the sidewalk washes out) would be appreciated. James said he would speak with the Highway Department to see what kind of assistance the Town can offer. Ed asked if there was anything else the Town could do; Mr. Roman suggested researching grant opportunities. Ed asked Mr. Roman to send any engineering that has been done, and if there are existing plans to also send those; he said if climate change mitigation can be incorporated into the project, it would open up more options for grant funding. Mr. Roman said he is waiting for a cost estimate from the contractor and will reach out to the engineer for final engineering documents. He also reminded the Committee that the product, Redi Rock, can be added onto later, so if sea level rises, the wall does not have to be replaced.

The Committee discussed the use of Redi Rock further and Skip stated that while he liked the idea, he does not want this project to be a "guinea pig" for a new product – he would like to visit other places where it has been used.

HARBOR PLAN UPDATE:

Mr. Turner from the Martha's Vineyard Commission was present to discuss updating the Harbor Plan. He said a letter of intent must be submitted to the State. He went on to say that there is some grant money available for projects like this but he thinks the Commission can cover the engineering costs. He's ready to get started, he just needs the Town to submit the letter. The Committee then discussed some of the logistics for updating the plan with Ms. Durkee of the MVC. The plan was updated in 2016, but the formal process for State approval and adoption was not followed, so the plan must be updated again and re-submitted. The Committee was in full agreement that whatever needs to be done to proceed, should be done. Ms. Durkee provided a preliminary list of needed information and Mr. Turner said he would get to work right away.

HARBORSIDE INN UPDATE:

The Committee asked Jane for an update on the Harborside Inn situation. Jane said she did not have anything new to report. James said he spoke with their attorney who said that they are waiting for additional engineering to be submitted to them. Ed asked if a deal could even be made, considering the land is public land. Jane stated that the Inn wants the Town to give up square footage, to which James responded that he doesn't think it's a good idea for the Town to relinquish land. Ed asked if town counsel should get involved. James then read aloud from an email he received last year from their attorney stating that the Harborside has "stayed" while it looks for a new attorney. James said he would send another email asking for a status report.

DREDGE REPORT:

Ed reported that the Dredge is in Eel Pond and has been there for a week and a half. The donated sand is coming slowly, but it is coming. The dredge will end the season on Friday, when the permit requires work be stopped.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare