



Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

September 7, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Marine Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:00pm on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 via Zoom teleconference.

The following persons were present:

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

Guests: Doug Hoehn, Scott Stearns, Kara Shemeth

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion placed on the floor by Skip to approve the draft meeting minutes from 1/12/22, 3/30/22, 4/20/22. Bruce seconds, no discussion, vote taken and passed 3-0.

III. LANDBANK PROPOSAL FOR FLOATING DOCKS AT CALEB'S POND

Postponed until 9/21/22.

IV. PROPOSED PIER EXTENSION AT 16 BAYSIDE NORTH

Mr. Hoehn (Engineer) and Mr. Stearns (Contractor) were present to request, on behalf of their client, the addition of a "T" to the end of an existing pier at 16 Bayside North. The current pier extends 186 feet out from mean high water and is 4 feet wide. The request is to add a 50 foot wide pier, perpendicular to the end of the existing pier, which spans between two existing spiles. They are also requesting a 6x20' floating dock. The end of the new "T" would be 146 feet away from the next pier to the north, and 416 feet away from the closest pier to the south; it would approach the faired pier line but would not cross it. Mr. Hoehn stated that the existing pier was licensed in 2015 and constructed in 2016. This particular pier is for private use only but there are others in the area that are available for non-water front property owners. Mr. Hoehn is seeking the necessary local approvals as well as a Chapter 91 permit. The Committee discussed whether a site visit would be beneficial and decided it was not necessary since the request is only for an addition to an existing pier.

Motion placed on the floor by Skip to approve the plan for the addition of a "T" and floating dock at 16 Bayside North and to send a letter of approval to the Conservation Commission. Bruce seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 3-0.

V. COMMERCIAL MARINE LICENSES

Ed stated that he had received a letter of complaint that some of the commercial license-holders are not adhering to the rules for commercial marine operations in the harbor and beyond. The complaint states that four boats have been taking out more than the six guests they are limited to. All three members of the Committee stated that they had seen commercial boats with more than six people on board.

The Committee recognized that the complaint came from a license holder who consistently does follow the rules and who is dismayed that others are not being penalized for ignoring them. The Committee also commented that the Harbormaster is the one with jurisdiction over enforcement of the commercial marine license rules, not the Marine Advisory Committee; the MAC only has jurisdiction over the renewal of the licenses in December.

Bruce told the Committee that he had emailed Rachel about commercial boats bringing large numbers of people into Cape Pogue and that perhaps those operators needed to be reminded about the rules for the area as it is not just boats out of Edgartown that do this. The MAC has no recourse for dealing with boats from other towns as they receive their commercial marine licenses from their respective towns. The Committee discussed whether it would be worthwhile to send letters to marine operators to remind them of the rules in Edgartown, and specifically Cape Pogue, but also noted that perhaps it is the DCPC that should do this. The Committee discussed the updated regulations for Cape Pogue that were put in place by the DCPC; they were well received and Pogue residents were not upset with the boaters this year as a result. Although the regulations have only been instated temporarily, they could become permanent with a Town Meeting vote. The Committee decided to bring up the issue of ferrying people out to Cape Pogue as a destination at the next DCPC meeting and also putting a mechanism in place to prevent charter boats from acting, effectively, as ferries.

VI. HARBOR PLAN UPDATE

This is stagnant because no one is pushing for it to happen. The Committee decided that while it could be useful for securing grants, the Town has been able to do that without the Plan and that there is no immediate action required.

VII. HARBORMASTER REPORT

Harbormaster not present.

VIII. FISHERMAN'S LANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

The easement still has not been recorded so there is no update.

IX. DREDGE REPORT

Ed informed the Committee that the dredge will be heading to the Little Bridge, then maybe to Tashmoo and then into the Great Pond to finish the season. In lieu of payment from OB for dredging the Little Bridge, Edgartown will get the ~5,000 CY of sand for nourishment at other locations. The FY23 crew has been hired and is the same as the FY22 crew.

X. WHARF COMMITTEE UPDATE

Juliet informed the Committee that the Memorial Wharf Committee has been officially renamed the Edgartown Wharf Committee by the Selectboard. The Wharf Committee will be looking at North Wharf next, with the permitting process set to begin this fall.

XI. MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Juliet informed the Committee that the Master Plan process has been looking at public water access as one of the areas for improvement; if the Committee has any ideas or input on that to

please let her know. Bruce commented that they are still dealing with the public access issue at the Harborside Inn and Atlantic Restaurant. The Inn and the Restaurant are not allowing public access in an area where they are required to but no one is enforcing or addressing the issue. The Committee discussed whether it would be beneficial to send a letter to DEP to have on record so that it would be a factor in the renewal of their Chapter 91 licenses. The Committee also contemplated whether the Selectboard could choose not to renew the restaurant's liquor license if they continue to block off the public access.

The Committee decided to put this on the next agenda for further discussion after getting an update from Jane.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 21, 2022 at 3:00pm.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and voted unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare