



Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Marine Advisory Committee was called to order at 3:00pm on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 via Zoom teleconference.

The following persons were present:

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

Guests: James Cisek, Steve Ewing, Liz Durkee, Scott Ellis, Rob Morrison, Peter Kirn

II. APPROVAL OF INVOICE

Motion placed on the floor by Skip to authorize Ed, or the acting Chairman, to individually approve invoices submitted by the recorder. Bruce seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed, 3-0.

III. HARBOR MANAGEMENT PLAN INTRODUCTIONS

Skip volunteered to serve as Chair of the Harbor Management Plan Committee and asked Ms. Durkee to explain why the update is necessary. Ms. Durkee said there are two main goals for updating the plan: addressing climate change as it relates to the Harbor, and addressing the conflict between recreation and preserving the natural environment (ie Shellfish, Eel Grass, etc.). Other areas that could be looked at include public facilities for boaters and public landings/access. Ms. Durkee suggested a series of public meetings to discuss these different areas of the plan. Skip said another important area to look at is the Gardner property on Chappy; Liz agreed and said Lighthouse Beach and Collins Beach were also worthy of discussion. Mr. Cisek (Planning Board member) said that Bob Gilkes (interim Harbormaster at one point) had presented a really good plan for the Gardner property to the Planning Board; he will see if the plans are still available in the office.

The Committee discussed how many public meetings should be held and when. They decided to hold the first one on December 7 at 4:00pm via zoom. The first meeting will be left open for people to discuss whatever they would like; subsequent meetings will have a more specific focus. Mr. Ewing suggested that moorings and piers should be looked at. Ms. Durkee said she would speak with some folks who are familiar with the Harbor and put together a list of their concerns. The Committee agreed that the State's concerns should be looked at and the plan should address those; there is no need to reinvent the wheel. Ms. Durkee said the MVC will be responsible for drafting the updates to the existing plan and sending it to the State for review. Ed said that there may be issues that come up that are not relevant to the Harbor Plan, but the Marine Advisory Committee still would like to hear what those are.

Juliet and Ms. Durkee will meet to figure out a plan for the rest of the listening sessions.

IV. EASEMENT FOR MOORING ACCESS IN HARBOR

Mr. Ewing outlined the issue at hand: when someone purchases a house along the Harbor, they are allowed to jump the waiting list (currently ~20 years) for a mooring. However, when they

sell the house, they are not required to give up the mooring. Mr. Ewing said that the moorings shouldn't be used as leverage to increase the value of the house being sold – if you sell a house, you should be required to release the mooring as well. The Committee agreed that this issue needs to be addressed outside the scope of the Harbor Plan. The Harbormaster maintains the mooring regulations, he should be consulted as to whether any updates to those regulations can be made with an MAC & Selectboard vote, or whether it would need to be approved by the voters at Town Meeting. The Committee will continue to discuss at the next meeting.

V. COMMERCIAL MARINE LICENSES – UPDATE REGULATIONS

The Town Administrator said he would gather and present the information needed to make updates to the regulations for the Committee to review. There are updates from a couple years back that are still under consideration.

VI. HARBORSIDE PUBLIC WATER ACCESS

Skip suggested a bold move, such as withholding the liquor license, should be considered. Bruce said that a letter must be sent before any action can be taken. Since the Conservation agent has not had the opportunity to do that yet, Juliet offered to draft a letter for the Committee and Jane to review.

VII. HARBORMASTER REPORT

Harbormaster not present.

VIII. FISHERMAN'S LANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ewing said they are getting close on paperwork but have not completed it yet. There has been a complication with one of the abutters suing the new landowner for attempting to build a house that blocks their existing view. Mr. Ewing said they are still planning to get the work done before next summer.

IX. DREDGE REPORT

Ed reported that the dredge has completed dredging at the Little Bridge and is currently in Eel Pond; the crew is welding pipe. The Tisbury Harbormaster has requested that the dredge go to the Tashmoo Channel for maintenance dredging, the Dredge Committee will discuss the request at their meeting tomorrow. Sand from the Little Bridge is at the Right Fork parking lot awaiting transport to its final nourishment location. Jane is having some trouble getting permission from DCR to put sand on South Beach.

X. WHARF COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Wharf Committee will meet on Friday. The Notice of Intent has been filed by the Engineer (Child's) and is on the 11/30/22 ConCom Agenda. The project will involve the installation of a rugged steel bulkhead as close to the existing wall as possible. The cost is estimated to be around \$3 million. The construction window will be 11/1 – 5/1, hopefully starting in the fall of 2023 (depends on the permitting process). As part of the project, the Town will have to collaborate with Safe Harbor, Packer and the two abutters. The underground tanks that are owned by Packer will have to be removed and although the cost of doing so should fall to Mr. Packer, he is unlikely to follow through on removing the tanks. Mr. Ewing said they are exploring other

options such as having the town remove the tanks in exchange for the above ground tanks that are currently being used.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, voted and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare