



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, July 13th, 2023 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

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

Advisors: Jane Varkonda, Tara Marden

Guests: Morton Fearey

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) The Committee reviewed the draft minutes from the 6/15/23 meeting and the 6/29/23 meeting.
Motion placed on the floor by Dudley to approve both sets of minutes. Michael seconds the motion, no further discussion, vote taken and approved (3-0-2). Peter and Ryan abstain on 6/15/23 minutes; Ryan and Mike abstain on 6/29/23 minutes.
- b) The Committee discussed the upcoming dredge season. Jane stated that the Parks Department is not looking for sand at the moment as they have nowhere to store it. Ed will reach out to John Crocker about his needs in Tisbury.
- c) Mr. Fearey was present to request that the Dredge Committee consider dredging his beach near Eel Pond. He spoke with Tara and wants to hire her to go through the permitting process. Tara responded that it would not be possible to dredge a beach, but could possibly get a permit to dredge some deeper areas. Ed stated that dredging in Eel Pond was not part of the plan for the upcoming season, but that if Mr. Fearey is able to secure permits, the town would happily take the sand.
- d) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.
- e) Tara provided updates on the three grant projects: Lighthouse Beach, Katama Bay and the Comprehensive Permit. For Lighthouse Beach, Tara is still dealing with NHESP, all other work has been completed. The NHESP rep has requested a lifetime analysis of the nourishment areas, which Tara is working on a response to. She will be ready to file the permit applications as soon as the NHESP issue is resolved. In Katama Bay, NHESP requested an analysis of all dredging areas with less than 6" of water at low tide. In response, Tara reconfigured the channels, eliminating two, so that these areas are excluded. NHESP has yet to respond to the modified plan. Tara also mentioned that an emergence of Tiger Beetles, an endangered species, in the area has also complicated things. For the Comprehensive Permit, all the bathymetric surveys have been completed; topography has not been completed because of the presence of protected bird species. She is hoping to get those surveys completed by the end of August or early September. She also reported that almost every nourishment site has sand below the high tide line;

her colleague is working on an SAP for the ACOE, which hopefully will not require the topo surveys.

- f) The Committee discussed some damaged fence at Fuller Street Beach. Jane said she will ask the Parks Department staff to grab the posts so they can be salvaged.
- g) Ed stated that the Marine Advisory Committee is in need of an assistant. He asked if the Dredge Committee would be ok with allocating a couple hours a month to the Marine Advisory Committee so Juliet can continue to assist them. The members of the Dredge Committee had no objection.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare