



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, August 17th, 2023 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

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

Advisors: Jane Varkonda

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) The Committee reviewed the draft minutes from the 8/3/23 meeting.
Motion placed on the floor by Dudley to approve the draft minutes. Mike seconds the motion, no further discussion, vote taken and passed (3-0-1). Ryan abstains.
- b) The Committee discussed the dredging areas for the upcoming season. After surveying the areas in Cape Pogue that the Shellfish Committee requested dredging of, the crew and Ed think it will take approximately 5 days to dredge the Gut and an additional 10 days to dredge the Poucha inlet. It will also take about 5 days to dredge the Little Bridge. Ed recommended that the dredge go to the Little Bridge first, with the same arrangement as last year (Edgartown takes the sand in lieu of payment from OB), and then to head to Cape Pogue.
- c) The Committee discussed the need for sand on Fuller Street Beach. Little Bridge sand can again be taken there, as long as Jane doesn't need it for nourishment at South Beach.
- d) Jane stated that she is working on getting an extension to the permitted nourishment period for Fuller Street Beach, since Natural Heritage no longer considers it suitable nesting habitat. This would allow sand to be placed on the beach later in the season, after the winter storm season.
- e) Michael asked about dredging the inside of the Little Bridge. Ed said he thought an OB representative was going to attend the meeting, but he is not present so that discussion will have to happen at the next meeting. He also said that there is not currently much sand in that area and it might be better to dredge it mechanically instead.
- f) The Committee discussed dredging in Great Pond. Ed said he spoke with Rob, and since the dredge may be in Tisbury for most if not all of the 2024-2025 season, the Committee should consider whether to dredge there again this year. Michael suggested that a meeting with all the stakeholders of the Great Pond, including the MV Shellfish Group, would be beneficial to determining how often to dredge.
- g) The Committee discussed the surveying needed for the Comprehensive Permit. Woods Hole Group has not been able to access certain locations due to the presence of birds. Jane stated that the restrictions will be lifted by the end of August.
- h) The Committee discussed whether the Trustees will be able to secure permits for nourishment on Chappy, when Cape Pogue is dredged this winter. Ed said if they don't get permits, the sand will just be left on East Beach.

- i) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.
- j) The next meeting will be in two weeks.

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare