



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2023

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, December 21st, 2023 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

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

Advisors: Jane Varkonda, Kara Shemeth, Rob Morrison

Guests: Joel Kubick

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) Approval of the minutes was postponed.
- b) Rob was present to request that the Committee consider sending the dredge into the Great Pond this year. The Committee discussed the optimal length for pond openings. Rob stated that the openings this year have been way too short and three out of four have effectively failed as they have closed within a matter of hours and very little exchange occurred. The Shellfish Committee's position is that dredging is one tool to help with longer openings, which are currently needed. The Committee discussed the conditions in the pond, including pond height, and the conditions of the beach for trucking sand. Ed stated that he is inclined to do what the Shellfish Committee has requested but there could be limitations with the budget. Jane stated that, after the recent storm, she desperately needs sand for dune restoration. The Committee discussed the cost of the previous dune restoration project in 2021. Jane said she and Kara will reach out to the landowners for permissions and will also take care of the local permitting. Peter and Mike both agreed that the Dredge Committee should respond to the Shellfish Committee's request; Ed said he will contact the crane company to get on their schedule as soon as the dredging in the Narrows is completed. Jane has some funds for dune restoration and the Dredge Department will also contribute as much as possible. The Committee discussed specifically where the dredging in the pond will occur. Rob asked that dredging be concentrated at the delta but dredging the Sluiceway would also be beneficial. Ed will get pricing for dump trucks.
- c) The Committee discussed the dredging at the Narrows. Jane stated that TTOR has run out of money to move sand; she asked if there was any way to utilize the remaining sand for South Beach dunes. She will do a site visit tomorrow to survey conditions and assess if the sand can be used. Ed stated that the homeowners on Chappy are thrilled with the new roads and that they can now drive from Cape Pogue to the Dike Bridge. The plan is to spread the remaining sand on East Beach.
- d) Ed reported that the new hire has been working and the crew is happy to have him on board.

- e) The Committee discussed the draft of the letter about the permitting process. Juliet will forward the letter to Rob and Joel for any additional feedback, but the Committee felt the letter was otherwise ready to be sent out.
- f) The Committee discussed which items to include in the 2023 Annual Report.
- g) Joel provided the Committee with updates on the three permit applications. He said they are looking at a February filing for Lighthouse Beach and Katama Bay permit applications. They are still conducting analyses for the Comprehensive Permit application.
- h) Rob informed the Committee that there is an opening of the Great Pond scheduled for this coming weekend. The Committee discussed the needed pond height and the time frame for launching the dredge in the pond. The dredging can occur until April 1st in the Great Pond. Rob said the road to Wilson's Landing looks good for dredge passage and mobilization.

At 4:42pm, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare