



## Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2024

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:01pm on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 via Zoom teleconference.

### **II. ROLL CALL:**

The following persons were present:

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

**Advisors:** Jane Varkonda, Kara Shemeth

**Guests:** David Bouck, Andrew Kelly

### **III. OPEN ISSUES:**

- a) The Committee reviewed the draft minutes from the 1/11/24 meeting.  
*Motion placed on the floor by Mike to approve the 1/11/24 minutes. Peter seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously (5-0).*
- b) Ed explained the current situation for South Beach dune restoration. At this time, there is no specific course of action in place. Jane is working on getting a waiver for the Time of Year restriction imposed on dredging in Katama Bay; DMF recommended denying a waiver request due to possible presence of winter flounder, so she is now working to get a higher authority involved. She has drafted a letter to DEP stating that the town does not agree with DMF's recommendation to deny the waiver request. She is prepared to issue an emergency certificate for the dredging work and will get the Selectboard involved, if necessary.  
The Committee discussed the area of Katama Bay that would be dredged. It is less than 1% of the entire bay and would be extremely unlikely to have any adverse effect on spawning winter flounder. Jane will include this information in her letter to DEP.
- c) Ed stated that Greg spent some time in the loader assisting the Highway Department with clearing sand from Atlantic Drive.
- d) The Committee discussed the other repair work that needs to be done, including clearing out the sand that has blocked the Herring Creek, addressing the issues with the culvert at Right Fork and the removal of the WHOI tower that has been destabilized. The Parks Department is still deciding what to do with the damaged bathhouse at the Left Fork.
- e) Ed stated that, with the beach in its current state, there is no way for haul trucks to access the Great Pond from Right Fork. Jane is still working on securing permissions from the landowners, which will be needed if the beach levels out and becomes accessible to move sand.
- f) Ed said he got quotes from Keene for dump truck services; the rate was over \$3k per day so he is also investigating the cost of renting trucks. The costs associated with renting equipment, and getting it mobilized to the island, may be prohibitive. Ed stated that the Town should consider purchasing a haul truck in the future.

- g) Mike stated that the Great Pond breached naturally and was tidal for about six days. Dudley and David discussed a schedule for openings for the Great Pond; David said the GPF is working on a study which he is happy to share the results of.
- h) Ed stated that the dredge is currently in Katama Bay and dredging can begin as soon as the necessary permissions are in place.
- i) The Committee discussed the time frame for putting the dredge into the Great Pond, considering trucks cannot currently drive down the beach. The request to dredge the Great Pond came before the storms so the Committee wants to honor that request.
- j) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.
- k) The Committee asked Juliet to check in with MV Shipyard about the timeframe for the delivery of the new engines.
- l) The Committee will plan to meet again next week.

At 4:37 pm, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare