



Edgartown Wharf Committee Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Wharf Committee was called to order at 12:00pm on Friday, November 4, 2022 via Zoom teleconference.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Steve Ewing, Scott Ellis, Chris Scott (joined late)

Advisors: Charlie Blair

Guests: Signe Benjamin

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) *Motion placed on the floor by Scott to approve the draft minutes of 9/19/22. Steve seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 2-0.*
- b) Juliet informed the Committee that before the flagpole bed was demolished to begin work on Memorial Wharf, there was a WWII memorial plaque displayed. The family members of those honored on the plaque would like it to be returned to the site and displayed somewhere until a new flag pole bed is constructed. Charlie suggested placing it in the Whale Tail Park temporarily. Juliet will reach out to ConCom to see if they will give permission for that. Steve mentioned that he had spoken with some other people who wanted to see the brick planter rebuilt and suggested that it could be rebuilt now and just stay in place with the parking lot is raised up.
- c) Juliet informed the Committee that Ms. Benjamin, who works for Vineyard Conservation, reached out about the placement of a water bottle refill station at the Wharf. There are other refill stations around town and Ms. Benjamin thought the Memorial Wharf would also be a good place for one to be installed. Charlie said that there are already numerous potable water sources at the wharf. Scott said he reviewed the specs of the refill station being proposed and it needs a cement slab, drainage and would need to be connected to an underground water source; considering the parking lot was just repaved in July, it doesn't make sense to dig it up to install one these stations. He suggested a less intensive unit and Ms. Benjamin said there are wall-mounted units also that don't require as much build-out.
Chris Scott joins the meeting.
The Committee discussed whether people would use a water-bottle refill station and that it might be better utilized in another location, perhaps somewhere on Chappy.
- d) Charlie said the CPC meeting went well and Chris confirmed that the comments on the North Wharf funding request were favorable. Steve said that Andrew will be submitting the Notice of Intent to the ConCom today and that it will be on an 11/30/22 ConCom agenda. The MEPA application will be submitted in 2 weeks and then Chapter 91 as soon as the NOI and MEPA applications are approved.
- e) Steve said he spoke with Chris Scott, manager of Safe Harbor, about doing the work on North Wharf next winter. Mr. Scott said he would like to be able to haul boats until 11/1 and then be able to start back up again on 5/1 the following spring, which would define the construction timeframe. Charlie said that Safe Harbor has been very supportive of the project and they want the area to look nice as well. The next step for the North Wharf project, after the ConCom meeting, is to get a cost estimate together and submit a warrant article request.

Those are due on 12/16. The Committee discussed the funds currently in-hand and how much more will be needed to complete the work. The Committee discussed some of the complications of the site, including the ownership of the timber bulkhead in front of 2 Morse St. It was decided that a meeting with town counsel and the town administrator would be helpful in determining the logistics of ownership.

- f) The Committee then discussed the Packer fuel tanks that are currently underground but not being used. Packer has a lease to pump fuel; the lease expires this year but can be extended. Charlie said the above ground tanks work well and there is no reason to try and replace the underground tanks which the DEP has said are hazardous and will have to be removed sometime in the next three years. The Committee agreed that it would be a challenge to convince Packer to remove his tanks from this location. The Committee discussed the fueling operations from the summer season; Charlie said it was a record year for fuel sales but staffing shortages and limited hours made it difficult for boaters to consistently have access to fuel. An added complication is how difficult a location Morse St is to get a fuel truck to, Packer is one of the only ones who has the necessary equipment to do so. The Committee discussed that the Town of Oak Bluffs took over the operation of their fuel dock but Packer still supplies the fuel. The Committee discussed whether it would be more efficient and realistic for the Town to just handle the removal of the underground tanks at North Wharf as part of the scope of the project, and then work out some kind of trade with Packer, potentially for the above ground tanks that are currently being utilized. Charlie suggested that Safe Harbor might want to take on the fuel service and the Committee agreed it was an idea worth exploring.
- g) The Committee will meet next on 11/18/22.
- h) Charlie said he spoke with Shawn at Granite City and is ready to place an order for the three lampposts and lamps for the Memorial Wharf timber walkway.
Motion placed on the floor by Scott to approve the order and purchase of the lampposts and lamps. Steve seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 3-0.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare