



## Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 via Zoom teleconference.

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

The following persons were present:

**Members:** Ed Handy, Dudley Levick, Peter Vincent, Rick Hamilton

**Advisors:** Jane Varkonda

**Guests:** Tara Marden (WHG), Matt Pelikan & Sam Hart (TTOR)

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

- a) A motion was placed on the floor by Peter to approve the 5/21/20 draft minutes, Dudley seconds, no discussion, vote taken and approved, 4-0.
- b) Tara Marden from the Woods Hole Group joined the Committee to update them on the progress of the Lighthouse Beach project: field data collection was completed in the fall; data was collected outside the harbor for a sediment transport analysis, which has also been completed. WHG is now working on the alternatives analysis, which looks at options like a low-profile adjustable terminal groin, a groin field that would extend towards Fuller St Beach, and a pile-configuration groin where piles would be placed close together but would not have connecting pieces. Ms. Marden stated that WHG is pretty far along in this analysis and should have a report within a couple weeks. The next step will be to put together a memo analysis and sketches to present to the permitting agencies (CZM, DEP) for review and feedback so that a direction can be determined. Ms. Marden said that stone can be difficult to get a permit for, and low profile or mobile options for a groin will be looked upon more favorably.
- c) Ms. Marden told the Committee that there is sand at the little bridge and if the Committee agrees, it should be used to nourish Fuller St Beach, which took a big hit during a March storm. The Committee discussed – there is CPC money available for trucking sand to Fuller St so they were in favor.
- d) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to hire a truck and another loader, for a day or two of work, to get sand to FSB asap. Dudley seconds, no further discussion, vote taken and passed 4-0.
- e) Matt Pelikan, from the Trustees of Reservations, was present to discuss a nourishment project with a grant component with the Committee. The location of the project is the Katama entrance to Norton Point; the road there is periodically inaccessible and subject to over wash. It would be nearly impossible to restore it if it disappeared. WHG has performed a couple analyses over the past few years and has determined that the best direction for the area is to restore 600 linear feet of dune with 10,000 cubic yards of sand.

The timeframe for the project is about a year and half from now; it has to be designed and permitted first. Mr. Pelikan stated that nearly half the cost of the project would be the cost of purchasing the sand and requested that the Committee consider offering dredged sand to offset the cost of the project. In order to qualify for the grant, TTOR must provide match funds; the value of sand offered would qualify for part or all of the match funding TTOR would be required to give. Mr. Pelikan stated that the entrance to Norton Point has been identified as a medium priority on the Municipal Vulnerability Program report. He went on to say that recreation and economy overlap with this location, shorebirds have cut revenue by up to 20% in the past, but no access to the beach would eliminate all revenue and would constitute a 100% loss.

- f) Peter asked Mr. Pelikan to explain how he could guarantee that any sand placed there wouldn't be washed away. That area erodes at 7-11 feet per year and much of the sand could be wasted. Mr. Pelikan said that due to the volume of sand being used, the dunes will be stabilized and less susceptible to erosion, but dunes are dynamic and there is never a guarantee. He said the scope of the project is large for a reason, they are trying to give it the best shot they can to not lose the dune.
- g) Ed asked if there was a preliminary design available. Mr. Pelikan said there is, a conceptual schematic by the Woods Hole Group. Ms. Marden stated that the dune has been impaired over time and a large storm in March of 2018 created the over wash area. Now it is a very weak area that is consistently over washing and will be impassable if it becomes a nesting location. Ms. Marden said the project will enhance the area that vehicles use so they are not driving along the beach itself, but behind the dune. She also stated that success will depend on regular maintenance of the area.
- h) Ed stated, personally, that he would be in favor of helping out the project by providing dredged sand. The Committee then went on to discuss options for getting a borrow site in Katama Bay permitted so that there would be a readily available amount of sand to be used in the future for maintenance of the dunes. Ms. Marden stated that a beach management plan, through the MVP program, would be a very useful tool when presenting an application to CZM to add Katama Bay to the comprehensive permit borrow sites.
- i) Mr. Pelikan stated that getting Katama Bay permitted as a borrow site is a good idea, but does not fit into the timeframe for providing sand for their project and asked the Committee whether they would be willing to provide sand. Ed said the Committee wants to help, but can't make a guarantee for that far ahead that sand will be available. Jane added that the authority to give sand is likely the Board of Selectmen's, not the Dredge Committee's. Ed said that the Committee will have to determine where the dredge is going in 2 years, before a determination can be made on the availability of sand.
- j) Ms. Marden asked if the Town would support the project at Norton Point; Mr Hart said he had already sent a request to the Selectmen for a letter of support. Mr. Pelikan then stated that perhaps it made more sense for TTOR to apply for grants in two phases, the first to complete the necessary engineering and permitting processes, and then apply for a second grant to fund the construction.
- k) The Committee told TTOR that they are happy to work together on the project and to keep the Committee in the loop as it progresses.
- l) The Committee postponed discussion on the Tashmoo project as a quote from the crane company has not yet been received.

- m) The Committee reviewed the budget. Ed informed the other members that he has purchased a new bucket for the loader. There is some remaining money in the operating budget so he will look into purchasing new tires for the truck as well.
- n) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.
- o) The Committee decided to meet next on June 11<sup>th</sup>, as two weeks, 6/18, is election day.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare