



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

May 23rd, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, May 23rd, 2019 at the Town Hall.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Ed Handy, Dudley Levick, Ryan Smith

Advisors: Jane Varkonda

Guests: Emily Reddington

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) The three Committee members present decided to defer the selection of the Chairman and Co-Chairman until the next meeting.
- b) Approval of 5/2/19 Minutes was also deferred to the next meeting.
- c) Ms. Reddington, from the Great Pond Foundation, was present to discuss contingency options for dredging the Great Pond next season, as the GPF dredge (Nessie) is nearing the end of its useful life. Ms. Reddington said the dredge will probably last one more season, maybe two, but she would like to get the Great Pond in line for potential dredging projects in the next couple of years. Ed stated that the Town's dredge worked in the Great Pond 4-5 years ago and it went well; the sand was good quality. Jane added that there's a longer window to dredge in the Great Pond so more than one location can be considered. Ed said that if the dredge goes in the Great Pond, the Committee will certainly want to utilize the sand; last time the pipe was run to the parking lot at Right Fork. Ed told Emily that the only item on the plan for next season was possibly Sengecontacket, so there was a high likelihood that the dredge would be able to go to the Great Pond. Dudley stated that he would like to have a written management plan for when and why dredging in the Great Pond should occur; he would like the plan to include a schedule for openings that correlates with the dredging schedule. Ms. Reddington stated that the GPF is not in charge of the openings, the Shellfish Committee is. The Committee asked Juliet to reach out to the Shellfish Committee and add this discussion to their next meeting agenda. Ed said that he was definitely in favor of a management plan and would like to have a plan for dredging projects that looks 2-3 years ahead. The Committee decided to wait for input from the Shellfish Committee before making any further plans for next season.
- d) The Committee discussed how to maximize the efficacy of the openings. Ms. Reddington stated that the Pond is in good health, water quality is above DEP standards. She noted that the most effective way to acquire counter-data would be to not open the pond and see what happens, but she also questions whether this is worth the risk. She said the best practice to keeping the pond healthy is not do anything too extreme, moderation is key.

- e) Ms. Reddington asked the Committee whether the sluiceway could also be dredged, if the dredge goes into the Great Pond. Ed stated that it would be crazy not to dredge there as well. Ms. Reddington asked about Wilson's Landing. Jane said it has never been dredged and the sand is not good quality, she would have to look into whether the area was still permitted.
- f) Jane informed the Committee that all existing permits have been successfully renewed and are good until 2024.
- g) The Committee discussed other areas to possibly add to the comprehensive permit including areas in the Great Pond, outside the big bridge (which would qualify for a navigational permit) and areas to mine sand in Katama Bay. Ed added that the Harbormaster would like to look into permitting North Wharf to be dredged.
- h) Juliet informed the Committee that Foth will be presenting the NOI for the Katama Landing project at the June 12th Conservation Committee Meeting.
- i) Juliet gave the Committee a summary of the available funding for the new Lighthouse Beach contract with WHG. All available funds from the operating budget will be put towards the contract, once the bills have all been paid. Any remaining balances will be covered with funds remaining in the permit account and FY20 permit money voted at Town meeting will be available on July 1.
- j) Ed informed the Committee that he's going to order some spare parts for about \$7k, but has no other plans for the remaining operating money.
- k) The Committee discussed the request for an insurance claim from Mr. Cascarino, Captain of Red Head Charters. Juliet said she received an email from the VH Harbormaster but it was not adequate to make a claim with. The Committee asked Juliet to have Mr. Cascarino provide a detailed written statement describing the incident, a report from the company that repaired the propellers stating the work that was performed, and a history of all maintenance work performed over the past five years.
- l) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare