



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

June 27th, 2019

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:00pm on Thursday, June 27th, 2019 at the Town Hall.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Ed Handy, Dudley Levick, Rick Hamilton, Peter Vincent, Ryan Smith

Advisors: Jane Varkonda

Guests: Emily Reddington

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to nominate Ed as the Chairman of the Committee; Rick seconds, no discussion, vote taken, approved 5-0.
- b) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to nominate Rick as Co-Chairman; Dudley seconds, no discussion, vote taken, approved 5-0.
- c) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to approve the 6/6/19 draft minutes; Rick seconds, no discussion, vote taken, approved 5-0.
- d) Emily Reddington, Director of the Great Pond Foundation, was present to discuss GPF's upcoming dredging needs as their small dredge, Nessie, is nearing the end of its useful life. Ed informed the Committee that both the Shellfish Committee and the Constable have agreed that the pond needs to be dredged, the question is when to go in; next season? Jane reminded the Committee that the Great Pond has a longer dredging window than the other permitted locations; dredging can occur up until April 1 in the Great Pond. Ed stated that the alternative to the Great Pond was to go into Senge for sand to nourish Bend in the Road and Fuller Street beach as well as offer for sale.
- e) The option of dredging both locations in one season was discussed. Peter questioned who would pay the extra mob/demob cost if the dredge were to be re-located mid-season; he also stated that, for him, Senge was a bigger priority because it would generate revenue. Ed stated that sand from Great Pond is beautiful sand and could be used for nourishment or to sell as long as a truck can get up and down the beach to transport it back.
- f) The Committee discussed the factors influencing where the dredge will go this season.
- g) Motion placed on the floor by Peter that the Committee agrees to dredge the Great Pond; and will do so at a time determined to be the most convenient considering all the factors discussed. Rick seconds; Discussion: Dudley asked if the last time the pond was dredged with the Town dredge was 2011. Ed said it was 2013. Dudley suggested that before taking a vote, the Dredge Committee wait and see what happens with the water budget, the schedule for the openings, and the other factors that still need to be discussed. Further discussion of the science behind the timing of the openings and the views of the

Shellfish Constable, who is responsible for the opening schedule. No further discussion, vote taken, approved 4-1, Dudley opposes.

- h) The Committee, having agreed to dredge the Great Pond at some point, discussed the best time to do so. They discussed the other option for dredging this season, Senge, and the logistics of getting the dredge under the big bridge.
- i) The Committee asked Juliet if the ad for selling sand had been placed. She said she has not placed the ad as it's a little early to be advertising for the sale of sand if it won't be available until late fall/winter. The Committee said the price offered for sand could be a determining factor in where the dredge goes this winter. Juliet will get in touch with Tara from WHG to discuss the needs of a client interested in purchasing sand; the price they're willing to offer can be discussed informally before the ad is placed.
- j) The Committee discussed the fact that the sand in Senge is sand from a borrow site; if the dredge chooses this option, the borrow site will be depleted for a few years. The sand in the Great Pond is very nice and the dredging itself in the Great Pond serves a purpose; however access for trucks to get to the sand is a huge variable.
- k) Emily stated that the GPF is looking for an answer, whatever the answer may be, regarding the Town's ability and willingness to dredge the Great Pond; she needs to put together a long-term plan for GPF's equipment.
- l) The Committee discussed the logistics and cost of a second round of mob/demob by crane if the dredge could get to both locations this winter.
- m) Emily stated that the GPF has stepped up over the past few years when the Town was not able to dredge the pond. She said it is now an issue of protecting a major investment in water quality for the entire Town. The pond is the Town's responsibility and it would be a shame to let a 10 year investment go to waste by not maintaining the health of the pond.
- n) The Committee discussed how to prioritize potential projects.
- o) The Committee discussed the efficacy and duration of the pond openings.
- p) Emily again stated that the GPF is simply looking for an answer to the question of whether the Town dredge can get into the Great Pond this season. Peter responded that there are too many factors to make that determination right now; those factors include the price people are willing to offer for sand and the accessibility of the beach for dump trucks to transport sand.
- q) Emily reminded the Committee that slight changes can reverse the health of the pond very quickly and shared evidence of this with pictures of changes in water clarity over just one year. Ryan stated that he thinks dredging the Great Pond is a win-win and is in favor of it. Dudley stated that it could also make it worse.
- r) The Committee agreed that someone should reach out to the HOA regarding truck access across the beach.
- s) The Committee did not come to a conclusion about where dredging will take place next year; there are still too many factors to consider.
- t) Emily concluded by stating that the GPF and the Town work together in a public/private partnership and that the private side has been funding the bulk of the operation for the past decade. She asked when the public part comes in; Dudley responded that the GPF is able to dredge and each year utilizes permits that were procured and are maintained by the Town.
- u) Ed stated that the best case scenario was that the dredge goes into the Pond this year; the worst case is it will be there in 2020. Emily thanked the Committee for their commitment to dredge the pond.
- v) Rick departed the meeting.

- w) Juliet updated the Committee on the Katama Landing project: it went before the ConCom on June 12th for the NOI. An abutter, Mr. Brown, objected to the project and requested a continuation, which was granted by the ConCom. The continued hearing was to be on July 10 but another continuation of the Vineyard Wind project has pushed the landing back to July 24th. Juliet will inform the project engineer and the abutter. The Committee asked Juliet to invite the abutter and his legal counsel to the next dredge meeting so that the Committee can address his concerns.
- x) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills. Juliet informed the Committee that there were three bills for the fiscal year 19 that have not arrived yet: one for the post-dredge survey of the Great Pond, one from Woods Hole Group for the work performed in June for Lighthouse Beach and one from Donald Benefit for boat captain services provided to WHG in their collection of field data. The Committee will not be meeting again before the deadline to submit FY19 bills so Juliet suggested the Committee pre-approve the invoices.
- y) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to pre-approve, and submit without signature authorization, an invoice to be submitted by Schofield, Barbini and Hoehn for the post-dredge survey of the Great Pond, in an amount of approximately \$2,000, Ryan seconds; no discussion, vote taken, approved 4-0.
- z) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to pre-approve, and submit without signature authorization, an invoice to be submitted by Woods Hole Group for Lighthouse Beach engineering work performed in June 2019. Added on to the motion was the stipulation that the operating budget is used first and any remaining balance is paid with funds in the permits account, Dudley seconds; no discussion, vote taken, approved 4-0.
- aa) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to pre-approve, and submit without signature authorization, an invoice to be submitted by Donald Benefit for captain services associated with data collection for the Lighthouse Beach project. Ryan seconds; no discussion, vote taken, approved 4-0.

Next meeting will be Thursday, July 18th, 2019.

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

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare