



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 15, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the Dredge Committee was called to order at 4:10pm on Thursday, November 15, 2018 at the Town Hall.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

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

Advisors: Jane Varkonda

Guests: Emily Reddington (Great Pond Foundation)

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) Ms. Reddington provided the Committee with an update on the Great Pond: The pond is currently very high (~3.5 feet above sea level) and they are hoping for a cut, as there has not been one for a while. There was an algal bloom that was very difficult to deal with and there has been a lot of fluctuation in amplitude. Ms. Reddington and Dudley discussed how often the pond should be opened (flushed) to maximize its health, and how long those openings should last. Ms. Reddington stated that the efficacy of the flush cannot be determined solely on the duration of the cut, other factors are at play. GPF has started monitoring the height of the pond during cuts to determine how effective they are. The Dredge Committee requested access to that information when it becomes available.
- b) Ms. Reddington informed the Committee that the GPF intends to get the dredge in the water the week after Thanksgiving; the dredge is waiting on a part. The plan is the same as years past: to dredge a pie shaped wedge for better water flow.
- c) Ms. Reddington requested a copy of the full comprehensive permit, including renewals. Juliet will provide.
- d) The GPF meets next week and will discuss a 5 year plan, as well as a schedule for more regular cuts. Ed asked Ms. Reddington to have the GPF offer an suggestions for additional areas to be added to the comprehensive permit.
- e) Ms. Reddington and the Committee discussed how the presence of shellfish and/or eel grass would affect the permitted areas. Ms. Reddington stated that the presence of shellfish would be a matter for Paul Bagnall to decide on, but the presence of eel grass would certainly stop any dredging in that area.
- f) Dudley suggested that an effort to widen the beach on the pond side would allow for a variety of vegetation to grow. This added vegetation could help stabilize the dunes, which erode at 10 feet per year on the South Beach side.
- g) Motion placed on the floor by Dudley to approve the 11/1/18 meeting minutes; Ryan seconds, no discussion, vote taken, approved 5-0.
- h) Ed informed the Committee that the dredge is over by the Reading Room. The spuds were removed and the crew thinks it will fit under the bridge; they are going to try this weekend.

- i) The Committee reviewed an 'Intent to Purchase Sand' letter submitted by WHG on behalf of the Cow Bay Corporation. The letter offered a purchase price of \$12 per CY (out of the pipe), for an amount of up to 25,000 CY. The Committee discussed the offer. Dudley stated that the price to dredge the sand is approximately \$11/CY so a purchase price of \$12 offers no value on the commodity to the Town; Dudley votes against accepting the \$12 offer. Ed asked Dudley if he had a counter offer in mind; Dudley stated that he felt strongly that the price remain firm at \$20 per CY. Rick suggested a counter offer of \$17 since the sand is out of the pipe and does not have to be dewatered with the Town loader. The Committee discussed the volume of sand that CBC is requesting and that it would deplete the borrow site in Senge for another 6-8 years. Another discussion point was how Bend in the Road beach would receive nourishment sand if it was all going to Cow Bay.
- j) Peter Vincent joined the meeting and was filled in. Peter agreed with Dudley, that the borrow site shouldn't be depleted unless the full value of the sand is being realized. The Committee decided that nourishing Fuller St. Beach with Eel Pond sand was a perfectly suitable alternative to the generating revenue with Senge sand.
- k) Motion placed on the floor by Peter to extend a counter-offer to Cow Bay in the amount of the originally stated minimum price of \$20/CY. Dudley seconds, no discussion, vote taken and passed 5-0. Ed will reach out to the CBC Representative and see if they want to proceed at \$20.
- l) The Committee discussed their warrant article requests and what the final amounts should be. Juliet informed the Committee that she spoke with Doug Cameron at the Dept. of Fish and Game, who said that the State could possibly begin construction on the Katama ramp during FY20, so the Town should be prepared with their share of the costs.
- m) The Committee will submit three articles: \$125k for the Town share of the landing reconstruction, \$80k for permitting costs associated with expanding the dredge/nourishment locations on the comprehensive permit, and \$20k for repairs to the loader that will need to be performed next fall.
- n) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills. They would like further explanation as to why they are the only department that pays their own share of the Town's Workmen's Comp policy.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and voted unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare