



Edgartown Dredge Committee Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 16, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Ed called to order the meeting of the **Dredge Committee at 3:10pm** on Thursday, **November 16, 2017** at **the Town Hall**.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following persons were present:

Members: Ed Handy, Dudley Levick, Howell Kelly, Les Baynes, Peter Vincent

Advisors: Jane Varkonda

Crew: Donny Benefit, Greg Bettencourt

Guests: Tara Marden (Woods Hole Grp.), Adam Turner (MV Commission)

III. OPEN ISSUES:

- a) The Committee welcomed Tara Marden from the Woods Hole Group. She informed the Committee that a client of hers, who abuts Fuller St. Beach, is interested in purchasing about 3,000 cubic yards of sand for private beach nourishment. The Committee informed her that the sand will be dewatered and is available for \$20/cubic yard. Ms. Marden said she will speak with her client and put together some numbers.
- b) The Committee discussed locations that private citizens might be able to store sand.
- c) Ms. Marden brought drawings depicting the notice of project change initiated by Mr. Schwartz to preserve Lighthouse pond. The salt marsh is starting to die off. Mr. Schwartz will continue to fund the rehabilitation of the pond.
- d) Ms. Marden informed the Committee that, because they now have permission to place 65,000 cubic yards below mean water at Fuller Street, they should really look into going back into Sengecontacket to dredge, as it is a perfect match source for nourishment sand to place on Fuller St. Beach.
- e) Ms. Marden also informed the Committee that the CZM grant was not given this year due to a perceived disconnect in the multiple on-going projects in Edgartown. She said that information from both major projects, Lighthouse Point and the Katama Landing, was submitted to MEPA separately and it was confusing to them to have multiple agencies performing and submitting engineering work.
- f) Ms. Marden stated that data needs to be collected from Sengecontacket to determine depths. She suggested the Committee ask for financial assistance from private residents with an interest in beach nourishment, in exchange for the commitment to offer them sand. Les asked whether a multi-year agreement could be entered into, using a CPI to determine the increasing cost of sand, so that the bid process does not have to be conducted every year.
- g) The Committee discussed using the dredge equipment/boats to assist Woods Hole Group in conducting the needed surveys in Senge.
- h) Motion placed on the floor by Les to assist WHG with a boat and operator to conduct surveys in Senge. Peter seconds, no discussion, vote taken and passed.

- i) Ms. Marden informed the Committee that one of her clients is very interested in the prospect of a terminal groin to be installed perpendicular to the shorefront at FSB; she thinks this should be considered a part of the “grand plan” for maintaining Fuller St. Beach. The Committee discussed that the bird habitat area makes this very tough from a conservation standpoint, but the fact that it’s the entrance to the Harbor makes it a necessity for the future. Ms. Marden told the Committee that WHG did a report about this as a possibility in 2007, and they are working to get the financial support of other Fuller St. Beach abutters to get the process started.
- j) Jane informed the Committee that the post dredge surveys are complete. Ms. Marden reminded the Committee that these surveys are crucial to keeping the Comprehensive Permit file up to date, and will make the renewal process much easier.
- k) The Committee discussed the time table of the permits and when they expire. Ms. Marden and her assistant will put compile the information about expiration dates into a chart so that the permits don’t lapse.
- l) The Committee thanked Ms. Marden for joining the discussion and for her continued work with the Town.
- m) The Committee filled out Juliet’s annual review paperwork.
- n) Adam Turner, from the Martha’s Vineyard Commission, joined the discussion to update the Committee on the status of the Dredge Master Plan. He brought an 80 page draft of the completed plan and asked the Committee to clarify a few questions he had regarding the placement of dredged sand. The Committee informed him that this is a major consideration in the operation of the dredge and that the sand can only be deposited onto a permitted nourishment location. The factors that determine which permitted location the sand goes to are: the need for sand on Town beaches, the distance the sand must travel to get from the dredged location to the nourishment location, potential revenue to be generated from the sale of sand, and the Department’s ability to store it for future use.
- o) Mr. Turner asked about non-permitted locations that might benefit from dredging in the future. The Committee suggested multiple locations, such as, outside the Big Bridge, Sturgeon Gut (Cape Pogue area), the jetties at the Big Bridge, Lighthouse spit, Katama flats and the main channel entrance to the Harbor.
- p) Mr. Turner asked about additional uses for dredged sand. The Committee informed him that sand is a valuable commodity; there are no shortages of places that need good sand.
- q) Mr. Turner asked about extending the dredging season. Juliet gave him a copy of the letter that was sent by the Selectmen to State Officials, outlining this request.
- r) Mr. Turner informed the Committee that his plan is to have the Dredge Master Plan completed before Christmas; he would like the Committee to review and offer feedback. Les suggested that Mr. Turner feel free to incorporate his own coastal management expertise into the content of the Master Plan, as the Dredge Committee members may not be aware of those considerations.
- s) Mr. Turner thanked the Committee and his summer assistant, Jessica Wey, for all their help in putting together a substantial amount of information. The Committee thanked Mr. Turner for managing the update of the plan and keeping with the original schedule.
- t) Ed informed the Committee that the core sampling has been completed, however it was determined that the area permitted is actually 30 feet short of the ramp and needs to be amended in order to put the landing in. Ed will discuss how best to go about this with Doug Cameron. Based on the core sampling, the new double-wide ramp for the landing is feasible.

- u) The Committee reviewed the invoices and authorized payment of the bills.
- v) Ed informed the Committee that the crew is ready to move sand to Fuller St. He asked the Highway Department for help again, but Stuart said they're too busy right now. Juliet will follow up with Stuart, but if he's unable to lend assistance, a loader/operator will have to be hired to spread sand on the beach. Juliet will solicit quotes if Stuart confirms that he is unavailable.
- w) The Committee discussed the benefit of purchasing the equipment needed to dewater sand and grade it, instead of having to rely on the Highway Department or an outside contractor.
- x) Motion placed on the floor by Les to approve the meeting minutes from 11/2/17. Howell seconds, no discussion, vote taken and passed unanimously.
- y) Jane informed the Committee that she still has not received a determination about locations to store sand. She will contact DEP and the ACOE to inquire about dumping sand on South Beach.

Peter motioned to adjourn the meeting, Dudley seconds the motion. No discussion, vote taken, passed unanimously.

Ed adjourned the meeting at 4:50pm.

Minutes submitted by: Juliet Mulinare