

Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee
Town Hall
Minutes

Date: January 10, 2018

Members Present: Bruce McIntosh, Scott Morgan, Martin Skip Tomassian
Ed Handy - Alternate

Other people present: Charlie Blair – Harbormaster, Richard Barbini – Agent,
Conservation Commission - Jane Varkonda (briefly),

Next Meeting Date: January 16, 2018 with Selectmen, (TBD)

Meeting Opened: 3:03PM

1) Call to Order

2) Single Pile Application for Rankow – 31 Water St. – Agent Barbini

(See documents on file and Minutes 11/4/15 p.1 #2 & 9/28/16 p. 1 #2.)

Mr. Rankow was still at odds with his neighbors. For 3-4 summers he had been tying his boat to his two piles and now requested a third at the starboard bow. The Committee briefly reviewed the history of Mr. Rankow's requests.

- Harbormaster Charlie Blair reported some complaints regarding navigation, but the Harbor had to be shared. (Complaints were likely to continue when notices went out at the next permitting levels.)

- Previous requests for a pier had been rejected by this Committee among others.

- The bulkhead water dependent use request was stalled at the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

- The location of the pile was confirmed as the best place to secure the boat safely.

• *BRUCE MCINTOSH MOVED THAT THE MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAD NO OPPOSITION TO THIS PILE REGARDING THE SAFETY OF AN ALREADY LOCATED BOAT; SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

3) Alternate Dinghy Dock and Charter Boat Locations

(See 12/13/17 Minutes p.3 #2 & below: Actions.)

The Committee revisited the proposal to relieve congestion at the foot of Main St.

- There had been several attempts to resolve this ongoing problem, but the Committee now raised significant safety concerns around summer visitors trying to access their rafted dinghies after an evening of partying.

- When their own dock was permitted, the Atlantic gave up all rights to the current dinghy dock – which they often violated with the whaler.

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- Charter and commercial boats would move to the Town dock to the south of the Yacht Club (at the current dinghy dock) and the dinghies would shift to Memorial Wharf, which would be lined with floating docks and an added access ramp (requiring a Ch. 91 license from the DEP).
- The 3 commercial fishermen paid \$500 per year (including electricity) for their Memorial Wharf berths and there was a waiting list. The proposal suggested they be asked to go to moorings (\$175/yr.) for July, August, and Fishing Derby Season. The Committee considered giving them a choice between offered moorings or adjusted Memorial Wharf standard summer prices. Fishermen would still load and unload at the foot of Main St. and retain their 30 parking passes for 14 spaces.
- Town owned land in Chappaquiddick was mentioned as a possibility but was not likely to be convenient for boat owners and very likely to be opposed by residents.
- Moving charters to Katama Landing would add 45 minutes to all their trips.
- *MARTIN TOMASSIAN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE SCOTT MORGAN AND MARTIN TOMASSIAN TO ATTEND A SELECTMEN'S MEETING TO TALK ABOUT THE DINGHY DOCK; SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

4) Update on Harborside/Edgartown Waterfront Access Court Case

Conservation Commission Agent Jane Varkonda reported hearsay that the Town won the case, allowing it to extend the public walkway, however there was no official word and the situation continued in limbo. She called Mr. Ben Lynch of the DEP and left a message. The Committee requested that she continue to pursue the matter.

5) Bay State Wind Proposal – Nothing new to report.

6) Old Business (*as needed*)

a) Mooring Regulations Amendment Discussion

(See 2/22/17 Minutes p.3 #4 & documents on file.)

Martin Tomassian drafted more enforceable language with a slightly different twist, which Harbormaster Charlie Blair liked. The original draft was sent out with permit renewals and received positive feedback.

b) Harbor Master Plan Expanded Implementation Report Update

Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) Coastal Planner JoAnn Taylor was unresponsive to inquiries (see 5/10/17 Minutes p.2 #2 and below: Actions).

c) Extension of Finger Piers Transient Season

The season was extended as requested (see 3/22/17 Minutes p.3 #6).

d) Aquaculture Planning (See 12/13/17 Minutes p.1-2 #5.)

Mr. Blair was against any commercial ventures in Cape Pogue and Bruce McIntosh agreed, the Committee noting the importance of a pristine Cape Pogue as a Harbor litmus test. (The Harbor was actually flushed by 4 tides a day, which explained its good water quality.)

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7) Harbormaster Update

Harbormaster Charlie Blair was going to Marblehead next week to look at the new additional boat, and hoping for a test ride if the harbor wasn't frozen over. It was a basic 27 ft. fiberglass hulled Ribcraft (like a big zodiac) with aluminum and Eisenglass stand up housing and a single Yamaha engine. It was designed for maneuverability rather than speed, and to allow it to come alongside yachts without damaging their finish. It could be driven by Harbormaster staff—i.e. no Captain's license required. Further equipment, (thrusters, radar, etc.) could be added as needed.

- The old Fortier (bow and stern thrusters) continued to be a hard-weather workhorse.
- At this point the basic Harbor technology was iPads that allowed staff to follow and access Dockwa (see Minutes: 4/8/15 p.2 #4 & 4/27/16 p.2). Last summer season staff Dockwa-profiled over 1,200 new customers. Cash was not accepted; credit cards were taken at the office if necessary; only about two checks were received.

8) Dredge Committee Representative Report

Ed Handy reported the dredge was struggling with ice but expected to finish dredging the Katama Channel including deepening Bluefish Point—which didn't make last year's deadline.

- Engineering Plans for the new improved Katama Landing were almost complete and would be submitted to the State as soon as possible (see 5/25/16 Minutes p.3 #7a)—the agreement being that if Edgartown paid for the engineering the State would build it. If all went well the vehicle ramp would double and there would be a pier with floating docks. Construction timeline was only one winter, and if the State built it, it would be permitted.

9) New Business/Public Comment

Martin Skip Tomassian emphasized the un-used Town land on Chappaquiddick that could easily be configured for a small marina. The Committee discussed previous proposals to develop it and its beginnings as an Army Corps of Engineers dredge project. Mooring competition continued to be fierce. If a resident requested a mooring in 1993 they received their letter offering a mooring this year (25 years later).

10) Committee Business

a) Approval of Minutes (12/13/17)

- *BRUCE MCINTOSH MOVED TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 13, 2017 MINUTES AS WRITTEN; SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 2 AYES, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSTENTIONS—MARTIN TOMASSIAN* due to absence.

11) Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair - None

12) Adjournment

- *BRUCE MCINTOSH MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 4:04PM; MARTIN TOMASSIAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

continued >

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Documents on File

- Agenda 1/10/18
- Proposed Pile Plan, Edgartown Mass. Prepared for Norman Rankow 12/28/17
- If a permit holder is not on-Island, said holder...

Actions:

- Scott: talk to JoAnn Taylor at MVC re: Harbor Masterplan Amendment status.
- Scott/Skip: attend Selectmen's meeting re: Dinghy Dock 4:15PM 1/16/18
- Marni: post joint Marine Advisory/Selectmen meeting.
- Marni: cc: Planning Bd. on all Marine Advisory votes on piers.