

Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee
Town Hall
Minutes

Date: July 12, 2017

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

Other people present: Charlie Blair – Harbor Master,
Pam Dolby – Town Administrator
Edward Pecoraro, Michael Pecoraro - MV Cruises
Marni Lipke - Recorder

Next Meeting Date: September 13, 2017

Meeting Opened: 3:04PM

1) Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order.

2) CML Commercial Marine Services Commercial Marine License - Vote

A new company, Martha's Vineyard Cruises, had recently formed to run cruises on historic Martha's Vineyard focusing on the Lighthouses, serving some refreshments, aimed mostly at adults (~\$45 per passenger). The boat was not likely to go more than 2 miles off shore and would be made available for non-profit/charity fundraisers to establish good community relations. Research with other Island businesses and the MV Chamber of Commerce confirmed this as a promising venture. After extensive searching the Company hoped next week to purchase a Florida boat that fit safety and interior parameters: 70 ft. by 20 ft. with a 5 ft. draw, steel hulled, good quality engines, no bow thrusters, mostly enclosed, taking up to 128 passengers, Captain Coast Guard certified for 100 tons. The boat was moored at the Tisbury Wharf and space was reserved from Ralph Packer.

- Mr. Edward Pecoraro was requesting a commercial license to run four tours a day from Memorial Wharf (11:00AM-1:00PM, 1:00-3:00PM, 3:00-5:00PM, 5:30 – 7:00PM) starting in early August.

- Martin Tomassian advised the applicants that this was an advisory committee only with no authority to grant licensing. The Committee liked the concept and the boat (photos were shown—see documents on file) but raised a number of issues.

- Timing was a major problem it being the middle of the busy season. Previous applicants had included public hearings, meetings with various Town Boards, consultation with the Harbormaster and police. Mr. Pecoraro agreed that the boat purchase timing was unfortunate, since the Company probably needed the summer income.

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- Memorial Wharf was already crowded with passenger pickup/drop-off for the *Pied Piper* and *Magic Carpet* as well as any distress calls, tourist traffic, fishermen, etc. Staging another 100 + people might compromise its capacity as well as public access for quiet enjoyment.
- The Committee also needed to consider the size of the boat that would have to maneuver through the mooring field.
- Parking and traffic would require police input. Guests could be encouraged to take public transportation or taxis.
- The Committee members sympathized with Edward and Michael Pecoraro and a number of alternatives were discussed.
- *MARTIN SKIP TOMASSIAN MOVED THAT THE MARINE ADVISORY BOARD NOT SUPPORT THE COMMERCIAL MARINE APPLICATION FOR MARTHA'S VINEYARD CRUISES WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WERE WELCOME TO BRING THE MATTER BACK DURING WINTER MONTHS FOR COMBINED MEETINGS WITH OTHER BOARDS; SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED; UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTION.*

3) Old Business (as needed)

The Atlantic Restaurant had put up the required signage but access was still blocked by tables (see Minutes: 4/27/16 p.2 #4a & 6/22/16 p.1-2 #3b). The Committee considered this was now a Conservation Commission enforcement issue.

a) Harborside Pier Concerns (See 3/22/17 Minutes p.1-2 #2.)

The Committee noted that the Harborside was moving towards compliance. The larger boats fit easily on the dock and tenders were no longer hanging off the backs. The *Enterprise* was too large and would not be re-booked. Members continued to monitor the Pier.

d) Letter to Mr. Colacray Regarding Dock Overhang (See 5/10/17 Minutes p.2-3 #7)

After discussing it with the Harbormaster the Committee agreed not to send the letter.

4) Harbormaster Update

Harbor business was booming. For example July 3rd the Harbor made \$7,000 renting 136 Town owned (84) and private vacancies moorings—there used to be a little push-back from private owners but they now realized the convenience and liked the practice. Usual daily take was about \$2,200 with \$500-600 on North Wharf dockings.

- The State approved related usages for \$54,000 in residual escrowed funds from the detour property sale including (see documents on file): a 22 ft, aluminum gangway for the Katama Landing (compatible with the new ramp), fencing, signage, cap holes in steel bulkheads, permitting for a Chappaquiddick dinghy dock, and a Collins Beach dinghy dock.

5) Dredge Committee Representative Report

The new dredge had been purchased and would arrive shortly.

- The Katama Landing engineering study was almost complete and there might be Federal as well as State money to rebuild the Landing on a faster timeframe.

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6) New Business/Public Comment - None

7) Committee Business

a) Approval of Minutes (5/10/17 as amended, 5/16/17, 5/24/17)

- *MARTIN TOMASSIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:*

- *MAY 10, 2017 AS AMENDED,*

- *MAY 16, 2017 AS WRITTEN,*

- *MAY 24, 2017 AS WRITTEN;*

SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, ABSTENTIONS AS ABSENT.

8) Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair - None

9) Adjournment

- *MARTIN TOMASSIAN MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 3:44PM: SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.*

Documents on File

- Agenda 7/12/17

- Edg. Conservation Commission, The following improvements have been proposed...

Actions:

- Bruce/Marni – Send MV Cruises vote to Selectmen.

- Marni: cc: Planning Bd. on all Marine Advisory votes on piers.