

Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee
Town Hall
Minutes

Date: April 27, 2016

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

Other people present: Charlie Blair – Harbor Master,
Kurt Peterson – *Nantucket* catboat,

Next Meeting Date: 10:15AM April 29, 2016 Site Visit
3:00PM May 4, 2016

Meeting Opened: 9:10AM

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order.

2) Harbormaster Update

a) Commercial Fisherman letter re: Finger Piers (See documents on file.)

Harbormaster Charlie Blair reported that charter boats no longer departed with tides, now leaving whenever their parties arrived, however all returned between 12:00N and 1:00PM, causing a jam at the Piers. The Selectmen's Office issued docking drop off permits (\$300 for residents \$500 for non-residents) to anyone with a Massachusetts Marine Charter License. A few licensed charters just used public access piers. Overnight docking (~\$100-120) was not allowed except at the discretion of the Harbormaster, mostly for a boat with a very early (e.g. 4:00AM) departure. The Committee discussed a number of possibilities and issues.

- The Harbor suffered from inadequate dock space—even the dinghy dock was too small.
- The Selectmen and Finance Committee were un-interested in Harbor revenue, and had not agreed to several suggested changes such as: fee increases, extension of North Wharf, increased access to Memorial Wharf, etc.
- To relieve summer crowding commercial fishermen (40 Permits with 16 parking spaces) could be moved to stakes during the tourist season; however the Finger Piers were built and documented for fishing use. Parking leverage was weakened by many Edgartown businesses/officials who were not ticketed.
- Some charters “hogged” the Pier hoping for customers (the worst offender had now retired).
- Charters could form an association and self police.
- When Kurt Peterson occasionally had trouble finding space, he docked at his mooring and brought clients in by dinghy. At the end of the meeting the Committee thanked him for coming and they and offers of help and support were exchanged.
- The situation would be monitored and the Committee continue to consider the matter.

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- Bob Colacray of Mad Max Marina had applied to change his order of conditions and drive steel sheathing around his entire dock, a 200 year old granite pier in good condition, used in whaling days.
- The Harbormaster proposed a liability waiver for all mooring rentals. Boilerplate language would be vetted first by Martin Skip Tomassian and then by Town Counsel.
- This year's revenues were up 17% day to day, possibly due to the new Dockwa software.
- A request to transfer moorings was against all Edgartown Harbor regulations. The Harbormaster had stated that when Edgartown Marine returned their moorings to the Department he would re-issue the moorings to the Prime Marina Group. Regulations forbade the sub-rental of moorings and required the Town Harbormaster be informed if the mooring were not being used on a night-to-night basis.
- *ED HANDY MOVED THAT AS LONG AS ALL CURRENT MOORING REGULATIONS ARE FOLLOWED THE MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE HARBORMASTER PERMITTING THE SEVEN MOORINGS CURRENTLY HELD BY EDGARTOWN MARINE TO THE PRIME MARINA WHEN AND IF THE AGREEMENT IS FINALIZED; SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*
- The Committee reviewed the rough and dubious history of the recent mooring holders.

3) Minutes

a) Approve 4/13/16

SCOTT MORGAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE APRIL 13, 2016 MINUTES AS AMENDED FOR SPELLING; ED HANDY SECONDED: MOTION PASSED: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

4) Old Business

a) Harbor Public Walkway Access (See 11/4/15 Minutes p. 2 #5a.)

The Committee repeated its intention to enforce public access to the Harbor Walkway, now used by the Boathouse, and blocked by tables, planters, benches from the Atlantic Restaurant.

• *SCOTT MORGAN MOVED THAT THE MARINE ADVISORY REQUEST THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION PLACE PUBLIC ACCESS SIGNS ALONG THE HARBOR WALKWAY INCLUDING WHERE IT PASSES THE ATLANTIC RESTAURANT AND THE BOATHOUSE; ED HANDY SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

• A site visit would be posted and the Conservation Agent contacted (see below: Actions).

b) Harbor Master Plan (See 4/24/13 Minutes, & 4/23/14 p.2.)

The Committee speculated on why the State (Coastal Zone Management—CZM) failed to approve the updated Harbor Master Plan, possibly due to poor formatting/organization. The matter would be researched and then passed on to a professional who could work with the State (see below: Actions.) The current Plan was incorporated into the Town Master Plan, and the Harbormaster referred to it daily for regulations and direction.

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5) Dredge Committee Representative Appointment

• ED HANDY WAS APPOINTED AS THE EDGARTOWN MARINE ADVISORY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE DREDGE COMMITTEE.

a) Dredge Committee Representative Report

Hopefully Les Smith would give an update on the Lighthouse Jetty permit application status.

6) New Business/Public Comment – None

7) Adjourn

• *SCOTT MORGAN MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 9:59AM: ED HANDY SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYE, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Documents on File

- Agenda 4/27/16
- Murphy letter re: Edgartown Marine Moorings 4/26/16
 - Application for Transfer of Moorings
- Lawrence emails re: Charter Dock Suggestions (2 p.) 4/12/16 & 4/19/16

Actions:

All – attend site visits for Walkway and Mad Max Marina 10:15AM 4/29/16

Skip – contact State (CZM?) re: requirements for Harbor Master Plan approval.

Ed – contact ConCom agent Jane Varkonda.

Bruce/Marni – draft letter re: Harbor Walkway signage.

Ongoing Actions/Future Agenda Items:

- Water Surface Zoning Bylaws
- Steve Ewing - present final 31 Tower Hill LLC plans when available