

**Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee
Town Hall**

Minutes

Date: September 23, 2015

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

Other people present: Charlie Blair – Harbor Master, Mark Begle,
Marni Lipke - Recorder

Next Meeting Date: 10/14/15 or 10/28/15 as needed; 11/11/15 Set

Meeting Opened: 3:01PM

The Meeting was called to order.

1) Welcome New Member / Introductions

The Committee welcomed new (and former) member Scott Morgan.

2) Harbormaster Update

- Due to some complaints from riparian Cape Pogue owners, Mark Begle of Vineyard Haven based SkyHigh Kiteboarding Inc. was considering applying for an Edgartown Commercial Marine license. Mr. Begle, who was insured and had his Coast Guard Masters license, had been in the business of kiteboard instruction and coaching for over a decade in all the Island towns. There had been no complaints until this summer when there had been an unprecedented expansion of general marine recreational activity on Cape Pogue. The Committee considered:

- use of Town Landing for commercial activity;
- precedence for use of Town Piers by other commercial enterprises;
- other launch options;
- length and location of SkyHigh sessions;
- number of people served.

- *MARTIN SKIP TOMASSIAN MOVED THAT THE EDGARTOWN MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND THE SELECTMEN APPROVE A COMMERCIAL MARINE LICENSE FOR MARK BEGLE OF SKYHIGH KITEBOARDING IF THEY DEEM ONE IS NEEDED; SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

- Later in the meeting the Harbormaster reported he was pleased with the fantastic 2015 season that broke the 2008 high water mark for rentals and moorings. The

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weather was great. The paramedic assigned to the Police Boat was very useful. The summer did generate some difficult calls, including someone trying to swim the Cape Pogue Lighthouse gap.

3) Approve Minutes

• *BRUCE MCINTOSH MOVED TO APPROVE THE JUNE 17, 2015 MINUTES; SCOTT MORGAN SECONDED: MOTION PASSED: 1 AYE, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSTENTION – MARTIN SKIP TOMASSIAN, SCOTT MORGAN* due to absence. Ed Handy was present at the June meeting and confirmed his approval of the Minutes.

5) New Business

Robert Crawley sent a letter of complaint to the Edgartown Legal Dept. (see documents on file) requesting the Town enforce the fisherman/shellfishermen only restrictions to the Jackson/Henderson access adjacent to his property. Harbormaster Charlie Blair notified the Conservation Commission and responded to the letter reporting his actions and stating the matter would be on the agenda of a fall Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee meeting.

- The access was posted as restricted. The Town had met with the Hendersons and Jacksons in the past concerning the access which had been open for about the last 20 years since concerted attempts to restrict it had met with consistent resistance (locks disappeared, welded chains cut, etc.). The situation was precipitated by a mess of abandoned dinghies and kayaks; and complicated by the definition of fisherman—which included recreational fishermen.
- The cause of this and other complaints was that there was not enough public access to waterfront, and the Harbormaster suggested it would be a wonderful piece of Katama Bay property for the Town to acquire. The Committee also noted the attitude of old and new owners concerning parking, boats and public access.
- The Harbormaster would start hauling away dinghies and boats not showing an up-to-date sticker at all Town properties (Sengekontacket, Cape Pogue, Katama, etc.), holding them for 90 days and then disposing of them. Edgartown Great Pond was run by the Parks Committee, which did not allow overnight storage. He praised the kayak racks put up in Sengekontacket and hoped the Parks and Marine Advisory Board would review and amend their bylaws.
- IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE MARINE ADVISORY BOARD TO PLACE THE JACKSON/HENDERSON ACCESS ON ITS NOVEMBER 11, 2015 MEETING AGENDA.

4) Old Business

The Dredge Committee was considering applying for a permit for possible future dredging around the Chappaquiddick (Edgartown) Lighthouse. This anticipated the possibility that the spit might have to be dredged in the next 10-16 years. The committee discussed:

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- memories of the radical changes brought on by sand accretion and erosion,
- disposal of the resulting material—i.e. sold, placed on State Beach or other venues, as long as it was not on the jetty where it swiftly eroded onto the beach and channel.
- The Marine Advisory Committee could, if it so desired, draft a recommendation list of priority areas to dredge for the Dredge Committee.
- IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE EDGARTOWN MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO SIGNIFY THE LIGHTHOUSE AS AN AREA TO BE PERMITTED FOR DREDGING.

5) New Business

a) Discussion of Harbor Issues—Public Walkways, Pier Use, Etc.

Chair Bruce McIntosh raised the issue of the public access in front of the Town Landing, now effectually blocked by Atlantic Restaurant plantings and tables. He proposed a letter to the Selectmen requesting the blockage be removed. Other public access cases were noted: Mad Max/Quarterdeck, Old Sharpe House trespass, etc. The Harbor Walkway should go the distance to the Old Boat Ramp. The matter was tabled until the next meeting (see below: Actions).

Meeting Adjourned

• *BRUCE MCINTOSH MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:53PM: MARTIN SKIP TOMASSIAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYE, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.*

Documents on File

- Agenda 9/23/15
- Email re: Edgartown Boat landing
- Crawley letter re: Jackson/Henderson access
- Blair/Harbormaster letter re: Jackson/Henderson access 9/1/15

Actions:

Bruce – check Edgartown Marine Advisory box at Town Hall.

Marni/Bruce – draft & deliver letter re: Dredge Committee Nomination to Selectmen.

Bruce – contact Jane Varkonda re: Harbor public walkway access.

Next Meeting Agenda

- Approval of 4/22/15 and 9/23/15 Minutes
- Henderson/Jackson Access Enforcement
- Harbor Public Walkway Access