

Edgartown Marine Advisory Committee

Minutes

Date: February 13, 2013

Members Present: Gary Look, Bruce McIntosh, Martin (Skip) Tomassian

Other people present: Harbormaster Charles Blair

Next Meeting Date: March 13, 2013

Meeting Opened:

MARTIN TOMASSIAN MOVED TO OPEN THE EDGARTOWN MARINE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AT 5:04PM; BRUCE MCINTOSH SECONDED: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Discussions:

- Marni Lipke of Office On Call/Order Out of Chaos was introduced and welcomed as the new recorder who would take minutes from now on.
- Unless the Committee asked specifically that they be preserved (e.g. for Public Hearings) audiotapes could be re-recorded after minutes were finalized.
- The Chair would continue to set agendas, post meetings, and be responsible for official records.
- Final minutes would be presented in PDF form for posting on the Town Website.

Discussion: Leland Development of Regional Impact (DRI) – Attorney Letter

The letter (see accompanying documents) explained that the Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC) modified the Leland 1990 DRI to include \$100,000 to be set aside with the Leland Attorney for water quality testing. This fund was to compensate and enable the original DRI requirement for ongoing water quality testing which had been neither fulfilled nor enforced. The Board of Health deferred to the Shellfish and the Marine Advisory Committees for implementation parameters: what equipment the Town should buy; the location, type, frequency and responsibility for monitoring; how funds were held and expenses billed, etc. At this point the Town should move forward in a timely fashion—the testing being already more than 20 year overdue (see below: To Do List).

Approve Minutes (See below: To Do List.)

Old Business

The Committee asked about the status of the September 1997 Edgartown Harbor Plan review (see below: To Do List).

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New Business

Harbor Master Charlie Blair updated the Committee on Harbor matters.

- The Selectmen had contracted with the Falmouth Ferry for another three years at \$12,000 per year for docking rights to Memorial Pier. The Committee discussed size of the vessel, use by Islanders, valet parking priority in Falmouth and company profits—if any.
- The Selectmen had approved small Coastal Cruise Ships in the Harbor. The ships held about 100 passengers, arrived Tuesdays and left in the small hours of Thursday morning. They did not dock but ferried passengers to and from the Town. The three ships came out of Newport, Rhode Island and made the Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket triangle in a five-day cruise. As they stayed within the U.S. borders the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) was not involved.
- The Committee discussed Transportation Workers Identity Cards (TWICs) mandated by the Coast Guard.
- Internet based Patch MV covered the Selectmen's meeting and expected to attend more Town functions.
- The Harbor and Assessor's Office were making headway in collecting Massachusetts excise tax on all moored boats. Although the start-up data collection was labor intensive, ongoing invoicing and enforcement should go more smoothly and already the income was being used to fund Harbor requests and projects.
- The Old Port Launch business was going reasonably well. The Advisory Committee remarked that signs and advertising on the launch exteriors were prohibited—although interior advertising was allowed (see below: To Do List).
- The Harbor Master was exploring a Google ID program that the Martha's Vineyard Shipyard was using. This could identify each boat, with all relevant information: photos, mooring location, winter storage, etc. In this way the Harbor could track boat status, as well as taxes, docks, aquaculture leases, etc. (see below: To Do List). Currently the Harbor was using a custom designed program set up by a former Assist. Harbormaster / geek.
- The Federal Government had given Edgartown an emergency rescue boat. The police were being trained and the officer on duty would man it. The Committee noted possible problems with dock space and fuel costs.
- The Harbor was gearing up for mooring reservations opening on March 1st. Usually the Fourth of July weekend was filled in the first 5 minutes, and all weekends and big moorings were gone on the first day. The Yacht Club was sponsoring a number of large functions:
 - Herreshoff Race
 - TP52 Match Race (shown on ESPN – cable television),
 - North American Far 40,
 - Annual Regatta,
 - 12 Meter Regatta,
 - Round-the-Island Race.(Race Week had been dropped for lack of volunteers.)

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Meeting Adjourned:

BRUCE MCINTOSH MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:47PM; MARTIN TOMASSIAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS.

To Do List:

Gary – coordinate joint Shellfish/Marine Advisory meeting on Leland DRI, asap.

Skip - resend out 1/23/13 Minutes.

Gary – contact MVC / JoAnn Taylor re: summary of Edgartown Harbor Plan.

Charlie/Skip – contact Old Port Launches (and Lenny Jason) re: no advertising on launch exteriors.

Charlie – report on Google ID at next meeting.

Accompanying Documents:

Agenda 2/13/13

Sign In Sheet 2/13/13

O. Stevens Leland M.D. Trustee letter re: Poucha Pond South Subdivision, Chappaquiddick (5 p.) 1/28/13

Minutes approved as amended 3/13/13