



MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission Meeting
Wednesday, August 5, 2020
7:00 PM

REMOTE Meeting

Meeting conducted pursuant to the March 12, 2020 modifications to the Open Meeting Law made by Governor Baker pursuant to the state of emergency due to COVID-19. This meeting was a Zoom Meeting using SCTV.

Commission Members Participating Remotely: Brian Kelly; Chair, Howie Kreutzberg, Rick Murray, David Sincoski, Michael Gibbons, Craig Rosenquist, Stephen Mone; Harbormaster, Alicia Anthony; Recording Secretary

Commission Members not in Attendance: Tucker Patterson, David Friedman

Others in Attendance: Maura Curran, Board of Selectmen

Brian Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

Brian Kelly asked for a motion to approve the August Meeting Agenda, a motion was made by Howie Kreutzberg and seconded by Craig Rosenquist. Voted (7-0) to accept the agenda as submitted by roll call vote; UNANIMOUS

Brian Kelly asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the July Meeting, a motion was made by Craig Rosenquist and seconded by Howie Kreutzberg, voted (7-0) to accept the minutes as submitted by roll call vote; UNANIMOUS

Opening Remarks: Brian Kelly

Harbormaster Report – Stephen Mone

A. Marina and Mooring Updates

Mr. Mone reported that things are going well.

B. H/M rescues

During the month of July, The Harbormaster had two rescues. One call reporting a boat fire about five miles off shore. John Hatherley and James Polk removed 8 passengers as well as a dog from the boat. Scituate SPD MP1 and Firefighters assisted as well.

The second rescue was a combined effort off Egypt Beach. Three teenagers were surfing on July 3 and got swept out in a rip current. The lifeguard secured the group on his board and called the Harbormaster. Assistant Harbormasters Rich Kelly and John Hatherley made their way out in Unit 1 in rough seas and rescued everyone from the water. SPD MU1 provided assistance as well. The boats returned to the Harbor, where the rescued party was brought ashore.

C. Harbor Status / CPM-SCM Slip Wait list sign up August 1

HM Steve Mone described how he had prepared and measured out 10-foot spacing sections with pink markings to show social distance recommendations prior to the event. There were signs up to wear masks if social distancing was not possible. People started showing up on Thursday night around 8 p.m., about 24 others came Friday and about 35 on Saturday. Mr. Mone made sure to explain how things were going to work to all waiting individuals. It took about 45 minutes for people to get through the line. Both Mr. Kelly and Mr. Mone agreed all Participants felt it was very well run.

D. South River Shoaling

There is one area where the South and North River intersect near the NR buoy, where shoaling has started to occur. Harbormaster Mone and Harbormaster DiMeo (Marshfield) went out and looked at the area with the Coast Guard. Initial conversations with Coast Guard about them possible conducting a survey to decide if this buoy should be relocated.

Old Business:

A. New HM Boat update

A new delivery date of the boat is estimated for October 1st. A fire pump was replaced with a different model, paid through donation money; also, some of the gear below the deck was replaced. Project on budget.

B. N/S River Pump out status

The pump out facility at the fuel dock at Roht Marine is up and running.

C. Activity on Spit and surrounding Rivers

Mr. Mone is continuing to work with Mike DiMeo and Scituate Police to patrol the activity on The Spit and surrounding rivers. Mr. Mone has five “slow, no wake” buoys he plans to deploy as well as two signs; requested Mr. DiMeo to take care of the South River placements. Continued coordination among SPD, Environmental Police and the Harbormaster teams.

Resident/Police Officer Brendan McAuley, spoke, about the high volume of boaters due to Covid19, and an increase in new boaters. SPD providing education to new boaters; as well as Marine Unit One providing support and increased activity in Scituate Waters. SPD received 2 new ATV/s to help with patrols on The Spit.

D. Comprehensive Dredge Project

Mr. Mone continued work on the Project Plan with support from Town Hall resources. Targeting this fall but no firm date at this time. It was agreed to review Project Plan framework with the Waterways Committee in the September meeting.

. New Business:

A. Maritime Center delineation of responsibilities

Mr. Kelly informed the committee that there was a meeting with Mr. Mone, Jim Boudreau, Michele Seghezzi and Nancy Holt regarding the Maritime Center's department responsibilities; as well as expense ownership. Mulching and weeding at the Maritime Center, cleaning bathrooms in season, and cleaning supply costs will be among the responsibilities of the Harbormaster's office.
A Fund for the Maritime Center has been created with responsibility for revenue and expenses.

B. Museum Beach Nourishment Project / Small Vessel decals

Conservation Commission issued Memorandum that no personal property is to be stored on Museum Beach due to a nourishment project beginning mid-August. Any items remaining will be removed and disposed of by Scituate DPW.
The idea of small vessel decals was brought up and agreed to table until the next meeting.

C. WWE Stabilization Fund- small transfer Retained Earnings / Debt discussion

The WW Fund finished the year with retained earnings of \$277,000. With FEMA reimbursement for damage due to Storm Riley (March '18), Retained Earnings should be in the \$400,000 range. Final audited numbers should be available by either the October or November meeting.

D. Town of Scituate Mooring use

To drive additional commercial opportunities for the Town, the WWC discussed having the Town retain a small number of Moorings in the Harbor for transient boaters to rent. Discussion held with Scituate TA, and the Waterways Committee Members support the concept to drive transient business in Scituate.
Although Mr. More didn't have the actual mooring numbers under consideration, he believed that 2 or 3 were in the inner harbor and 1 is in the outer harbor.

David Dauphine, South Scituate, asked if there is anchorage available so that the Town isn't responsible for maintenance and such. Mr. Mone indicated that all known areas were already used for moorings.

Brian Cronin brought to the committee's attention that other than Town of Scituate, no one else is allowed to rent out moorings. To change in rules and regulations an amendment would need to be made and be brought before The Board of Selectmen.

Mike Gibbons asked what the fee would be. Mr. Kelly said Plymouth has it at \$65 including transportation and suggested we keep our model similar as to not undercut anyone.

Brad White, Marshfield Hills, informed the committee that he is not receiving meeting minutes. This matter will be looked in to by Recording Secretary; Alicia Anthony.

Mr. Kelly made a motion that The Waterways Committee send a letter to The Town Administrator for the town to consider moving forward with four moorings to use as see fit by the Harbormaster for transient boaters, which was seconded by Howie Kreutzberg, voted majority in favor (4-0) as Steven Mone sustained due to there being enough board members present; UNANIMOUS

E. Schedule WWC Fall Vote for Chair/Vice-chair

Mr. Kelly asked that Committee Members think about stepping in to the Chair and Vice Chair positions for the upcoming Waterways year.

David Sincoski asked that we add to next month's agenda's new business to understand North River floating docks (10A), especially in the vicinity of Roht Marine. Mr. Sincoski would like everyone on the WWC to understand the process and what is the governing body. Mr. Kelly agreed to add the discussion to the September agenda, but noted that the Roht Marine is on both the Marshfield (former Mary's) and Scituate (former AtoZ) side of the River.

Participant Q&A:

David Dauphine, South Scituate mentioned that regarding the Museum Beach nourishment project, small craft has become a bigger issue and consuming space. Mr. Kelly agreed to keep this on the agenda.

Brad White, Marshfield Hills, brought to the committee's attention that many people are parking in Scituate on the 3A Overlook to access Marina in a dangerous way

There being no more business to discuss Mr. Kelly asked for a motion to be made to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. Howie Kreutzberg made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Rick Murray

