



TOWN OF SCITUATE

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MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission Meeting
Wednesday, June 2, 2021
7:00 PM
Scituate Maritime Center
119 Edward Foster Rd.
Scituate, MA 02066

Commission Members Participating: Chairman, Mike Gibbons, Scituate Harbormaster; Stephen Mone, Brian Kelly, David Friedman, Vice Chairperson; Rick Murray (excused himself early), Craig Rosenquist, David Sincoski

Participating Remotely: Howie Kreutzberg

Commission Members not in Attendance: Dave Haley, Tucker Patterson, Steve Guard

Others in Attendance: Recording Secretary, Alicia Anthony, Selectboard Liaison; Maura Curran, Conservatives Commission Liaison; Andrew Gallagher, Officer Brendan McAuley

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to call the meeting to order at 7:07 PM. Brian Kelly made a motion which was seconded by David Friedman and voted all in favor (8-0) by roll call vote; UNANIMOUS.

Roll Call Vote:

Vice Chairperson Rick Murray (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

David Freidman (yes)

Harbormaster Stephen Mone (yes)

Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)

Craig Rosenquist (yes)

David Sincoski (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to approve the June 2, 2021 Meeting Agenda. Brian Kelly made a motion which was seconded by Vice Chairperson Rick Murray and voted all in favor (8-0) to accept the agenda as submitted by roll call vote; UNANIMOUS.

Roll Call Vote:

Vice Chairperson Rick Murray (yes)
Brian Kelly (yes)
David Freidman (yes)
Harbormaster Stephen Mone (yes)
Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)
Craig Rosenquist (yes)
David Sincoski (yes)
Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to approve the May 5, 2021 Meeting Minutes as written. Dave Friedman made a motion which was seconded by Brian Kelly and voted all in favor (8-0) to accept the minutes as written by roll call vote;
UNANIMOUS.

Roll Call Vote;
Vice Chairperson Rick Murray (yes)
Brian Kelly (yes)
David Freidman (yes)
Harbormaster Stephen Mone (yes)
Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)
Craig Rosenquist (yes)
David Sincoski (yes)
Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Harbormaster Report – Stephen Mone

A. CPM Piling Project Status Update

Harbormaster Mone updated the board on the project status. He started by reporting that the fencing around the viewing stand is scheduled to be delivered next week and will be installed upon arrival. He then said that this will complete the project. Harbormaster Mone was happy to relay that the piling project will be completed on time and under budget.

B. River Updates

Harbormaster Mone reported that the navigational aids are in, as are the no-wake buoys. He informed the board that The North/South River Watershed Association donated more signs. Harbormaster Mone stated that both him and Marshfield Harbormaster Dimeo have started patrolling the rivers and are keeping people from making wakes. Although the rivers have been pretty busy, Harbormaster Mone said things are going well.

Vice Chairperson Rick Murray asked if patrol will pick up on the spit soon. Harbormaster Mone responded that additional officers will be used on busier in-season days.

C. Transient moorings

Harbormaster Mone reported to the board that the town had voted to approve the three transient moorings. This has since been submitted to The Army Corp of Engineers for approval. Harbormaster Mone stated that the mooring stones from the marina project have been removed and auctioned off, and three stones set aside stones from pile have been brought to the ramp at Cole Parkway for use on the

transient moorings. New transient mooring balls have been ordered to put in the outer harbor. Harbormaster Mone said that he has put on the Dockwa App that these mooring will be coming soon. Once the stones are deployed and set up, and the \$5,000 request is approved, reservations will begin to be taken. Harbormaster Mone estimates the project to be fully functional by July 1.

D. Boating Tragedy New Inlet

The board discussed the unfortunate boating tragedy that happened over Memorial Day Weekend as well as their previously mentioned concerns for the difficult season to come. The expectations for new boaters is to be up even more so than last season, which was exceptionally higher than usual.

Craig Rosenquist suggested having more coverage on weekends in these busy areas, stating that the idea wouldn't be to replace coverage elsewhere, but in addition. The board members agreed that this high traffic area is most prone for accidents, but with the current budget, it wouldn't be possible to not lose coverage somewhere else.

Rick Murray mentioned the possibility of working out a schedule with other departments so that this coverage doesn't lie only on The Scituate Harbormaster's office. Splitting coverage for weekend coverage with Marshfield's Harbormaster and Scituate and Marshfield Police Departments could make this doable for the short but busy season.

Scituate Resident, David Dauphinee of Clapp Road stated that boaters should all be looking out for each other. It's a difficult decision to help save a life versus saving your own, and ultimately the responsibility lies on the captain.

Scituate Resident, Paul Manning of 64 Moreland Parkway, spoke up saying that it was a rare day with the amount of waves. He stated that he doesn't think that the incident couldn't have been prevented under the conditions and could have possibly endangered another life.

Harbormaster Mone responded saying that The Scituate Police Department was right there and still weren't able to get to the incident despite their efforts.

Officer McAuley also said that extra coverage most likely wouldn't have made a difference in this incident. He also stated that he thinks it is a great idea to have a presence out there but his department doesn't have the amount of resources as many of the other organizations. Officer McAuley also brought up that Bassin Beach in Cohasset is also becoming a busy area and needs coverage. He said the growing amount of people in these areas is the issue, not the lack of coverage. Going on to mention, the presence of a paramedic in these areas would probably be ideal if it were affordable.

The discussion ended with several board members offering to discuss the possibilities of additional coverage with the above-mentioned departments.

E. Start of 2021 Season

Harbormaster Mone reported that the 2021 season has started and is busy. Many boats are out in the rivers and harbor and he expects it to be another demanding year. Harbormaster Mone stated that the bathrooms and showers have been opened for members of The Marina as well as at The Cole Parkways.

F. Auction Items

Harbormaster Mone reported that all items were sold on an auction site. These earnings have not been counted in to the revenue projection so they will be added in.

Old Business

A. Dredge Permitting

Harbormaster Mone is preparing an RFP to be ready with permit in hand after applying for the grant. Howie Kreutzberg then mentioned that he met with CZM and was told that comprehensive dredge permits have not gone away as Scituate had thought they did. He was also told that Council will provide permitting match, not moneys for dredging and that Mass Economic of Housing and Economic Development is providing approximately \$4million a year in dredging funds. Most of the funding has been used in The Cape area so they're anxious to spread the money in other areas.

B. Small Vessel Management and Access

- **Racking for Paddle Craft**

David Friedman started his update reminding the board of the mission that the group started with which was to make access easier to what is growing in town. He went on to say that the possibility of growing revenue for Waterways funds was equally as motivational. The project is intended to start off small but could easily bring in revenue if it grew. Going on to say that Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau and The Board of Selectpeople are not against the idea but have concerns of the logistics. Mr. Friedman shared the letter he drafted to The Selectboard. The board discussed the possibilities of which department will take responsibility for the new tasks which was agreed that ultimately The Selectboard would have the final say in. The Commission also mostly agreed that buying the racks versus having them made would make more sense.

Mr. Murray then made a motion to vote to send the letter of motion to forward to The Selectboard the draft program as an example of a way to increase public access, which Brian Kelly seconded and was voted majority in favor (7-1-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Vice Chairperson Rick Murray (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

Dave Friedman (yes)

Harbormaster Stephen Mone (abstained)

Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)

Craig Rosenquist (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

- **Jericho ramp area improvements**

Harbormaster Mone started off by saying that he has been working with Doug Cameron and Jack Shepard over years regarding issues he's seen at the Jericho Ramp. He mentioned that the state has a program that will have them come out to review ramps.

Scituate Resident, David Dauphinee spoke up saying that this project initially to fill revenue gaps and provide access to the waters offered by the town. He stated that there is still no knowledge of who is responsible for the water side of this location, as its known that the state takes responsibility for the land side. Mr. Dauphinee pointed out that as this evolves, the area will need to be maintained, revenue here isn't to make money but to cover expenses of the area. He went on to say that giving access to non-paying users is a bigger strain on everything. Mr. Dauphinee went on to say that knowing the goals, objectives and main focuses as this grows is key. Saying that the state will help with the management funding of the ramp itself. Usually in these instances they will require the town to provide 'X' number of parking spaces for every dollar they put in to the area. Mr. Dauphinee stated that Doug Cameron from Fishing and Boating Access agreed to attend the next Waterways meeting as he personally wants to assist.

Harbormaster Mone also reported during this time that he wants to add another pump station at the location. A design engineer is in the process of doing some repairs. Mr. Cameron informed Harbormaster Mone that he is on board and suggested adding an 8x20 additional float to the application. Harbormaster Mone went on to say that this would be able to be tied in to the Sewer Department on Jericho Road. Also saying that he is working on getting the grant application ready to be submitted by June 7th. Parking lot lights are being put in the plans, suggesting fiberglass.

Ms. Curran suggested having a Waterways Representative to work with the Selectboard on the Waterway's plans for Jericho to ensure that they align with what the Selectboard needs to do at Pier 44. Craig Rosenquist volunteered for the position to represent the Waterways Commission on the SHARC (Scituate Harbor Advisory Redevelopment Commission).

Chairperson Gibbons made a motion to vote on making Mr. Rosenquist Waterways Representative to SHARC, which was seconded by Brian Kelly and voted majority in favor (6-1-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

Craig Rosenquist (yes)

Dave Friedman (yes)

David Sincoski (yes)

Harbormaster Stephen Mone (abstained)

Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)

C. Financial update – Brian Kelly

Mr. Brian Kelly passed Financial information out and went over the financial revenue spreadsheet that Finance Director, Nancy Holt has provided for the Waterways

Commission. He explained that the WW Enterprise Fund is exceeding budget revenue for this year. He went on to say that as of the end of May, Waterways revenue was at \$1.2M and the Budget was \$1.59M. Mr. Kelly added that he had noticed that a payment for Scituate Boat Works was just delivered yesterday and has yet to be added to these numbers, nor has the auction money, which will improve financials. He stated that net is the WWC needs watch expenses over the next two years as the WW Debt Service will begin to decrease until FY24

D. Porta Pottys

Selectboard Liaison, Maura Curran informed the board that she sent an email to DPW asking to get a different maintenance system involved or another company that would increase the amount of times the porta pottys are sanitized. She mentioned that there is still not any knowledge of where the porta potty at Jericho came from. The board agreed with Ms. Curran that the location needs one. Ms. Curran offered to move forward with this (ADA Compliant) and informed the board that it would most likely come out of Waterways money.

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New Business

The Waterways Commission agreed to keep the next meeting as scheduled for Wednesday, July 7, 2021 as all were available.

Participant Q&A

None to discuss.

Adjourn Meeting

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to adjourn the meeting at 8:55. Mr. Brian Kelly made the motion and David Freidman seconded this, voting all in favor (7-0) by roll call vote; UNANIMOUS.

Roll Call Vote:

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

Craig Rosenquist (yes)

Dave Freidman (yes)

David Sincoski (yes)

Harbormaster Stephen Mone (yes)

Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)