

**TOWN OF SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS
WATERWAYS COMMISSION**



**MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission
Wednesday, December 1, 2021
7:00 pm
Scituate Senior Center
333 First Parish Road
Scituate, MA 02066**

Commission Members Present: Chairperson; Mike Gibbons, Scituate Harbormaster; Stephen Mone, T.J. Malvesti; Associate Member, Howie Kreutzberg (remote participation), Vice Chairperson; Rick Murray, Brian Kelly, Dave Haley, David Friedman, David Sincoski (remote participation), Craig Rosenquist, Brian Cronin; Associate Member, Dave Dinneen; Associate Member

Also in Attendance: Recording Secretary; Alicia Anthony, Officer Brendan McAuley of Scituate Police Department, Frank Mirarchi of Northeast Fishery Sector 12, Scott Tihansky of Board Safe, Glen Moore of Board Safe

Members Not in Attendance: Steve Guard; Associate Member

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to call the the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. which was made by Rick Murray, seconded by Brian Kelly and voted unanimously in favor (9-0).

Roll Call Vote:

Rick Murray (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

David Friedman (yes)

David Sincoski (yes)

Dave Haley (yes)

Craig Rosenquist (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Harbormaster Stephen Mone (yes)

Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to approve the December 1, 2021 Meeting Agenda. David Friedman made a motion which was seconded by Rick Murray, and voted unanimously in favor (9-0).

Roll Call Vote:

Rick Murray (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

David Friedman (yes)

David Sincoski (yes)

David Haley (yes)

Craig Rosenquist (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Harbormaster Stephen Mone (yes)

Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to approve the October 6, 2021 and November 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes. David Friedman made a motion which was seconded by Brian Kelly and voted unanimously in favor (9-0).

Roll Call Vote:

Rick Murray (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

David Friedman (yes)

David Sincoski (yes)

David Haley (yes)

Craig Rosenquist (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Harbormaster Stephen Mone (yes)

Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)

General discussion

Harbormaster Report – Stephen Mone

A. CPM Marina Grant Request

Harbormaster Mone informed the board that the Cole Parkway marina Grant was submitted and the paperwork was accepted. He said that he expects to hear back from Seaport around March or April.

B. SMP Pilings

Harbormaster Mone informed the board that the six additional pilings were installed last week and went on to say that the project is now complete. Harbormaster Mone also stated that the crane, barge, and tug left this morning. He also gave the final costs in the amounts of; cost to drive the pilings approximately (\$17,000) and the additional approximately piling (\$7,000). This will result in less than a two-year payback after allowing three additional slips to be added.

Project is done and complete.

Mr. Mone reported that once DEP and The Army Core records are updated, he will correct the re-configuration zone.

Mr. Brian Kelly asked Harbormaster Mone if any buoys were lost in the North River. Harbormaster Mr. responded, stating that they had lost two. He went on to say that he is working with the coast guard to get one off of the beach and Harbormaster Dimeo is assisting the coastguard with the other that was seen in the marsh. Howie Kreutzberg then thanked Harbormaster Mone for his work on the piling project and added that the numbers contributed to the bottom line are terrific.

New Business

A. Northeast Fishery Sector 12 Request to Discuss a Proposed Ice Facility on the Town Pier - Frank Mirarchi

Northeast Fishery Sector 12 Representative and Scituate Resident, Frank Mirarchi, of 67 Creelman Drive introduced himself. He then introduced Ms. Paula Lynch, Manager of Northeast Fishery Sector 12 and Mr. Phillip Lynch, Vice President of Northeast Fishery Sector 12.

Mr. Mirarchi started off by explaining that The Northeast Fishery Sector 12 is a 501C non-profit organization that was formed in 2009. He went on to say that the group currently has 18 enrolled permits and 6 active vessels, which landed 623,000 pounds of groundfish in the Town of Scituate throughout the year of 2020. Mr. Mirarchi stated that Scituate's fishermen have successfully obtained infrastructure grants under the CARES Act in the past. The NEFS XII would now like to explore the possibility of applying for an additional grant to establish an ice facility in Scituate Harbor through the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) for onshore infrastructure supporting fisheries. He went on to say that these grants will be available soon and he wanted to run the organization's idea by the Waterways Commission prior to working up an actual proposal. Mr. Mirarchi explained that it's getting harder and harder to run a fishing business as the costs of ice continue to rise due to delivery fees as well as the shortage of truck drivers in the field. He stated that the Town Pier has the space as well as the water and electricity hook ups and adding an ice machine to that area would be huge for the local fishermen. The board spoke of the infrastructure that was in plan on the pier for a few years in the past and the reasonings for it not lasting; large, noisy and unattractive. Mr. Mirarchi has seen newer machines in Boston that with evolving technology run better and more efficiently. Although Mr. Mirarchi hasn't yet priced out equipment, he stated that he envisions something that could support 600,000 + pounds of fish, averaging about 5 tons of ice per day, enclosed by modular siding with a bin for about 10 pounds of extra ice. He also brought up that he understands an engineering study would need to be conducted. Harbormaster Mone brought to Mr. Mirarchi's attention that the pier is now larger than it was when there was an ice machine there previously and they agreed that the addition wouldn't interfere with any currently utilized space. Dave Freidman asked how the economics of this would work, to which Mr. Mirarchi explained that as his organization is non-profit, the charges to cover costs of water, energy and space rental from the town would need to be voted on. He stated that the structure would be fully owned and operated by the sector. Mr. Mirarchi went on to say that adding this machine to the area would benefit food security in a large way. He informed the board that less than 30% of what is out there is currently being caught. Vice Chairperson Murray spoke up, saying that the Waterways Commission

is supportive of the idea as this will keep active fishery going for both economic and food security purposes. Mr. Murray went on to say that he agrees that a proposal should be ready to go for when the grant becomes available and suggested that the Waterways Commission recommend that the sector not be charged for utilizing this space. Chairperson Gibbons and Harbormaster Mone stated that they also agree with Mr. Murray. Harbormaster Mone mentioned the commercial fishermen he sees having it tough and would like to support them. The board and Mr. Mirarchi spoke of getting studies on both prices and productivity associated with the project so that the Waterways Commission could put a letter together for the Selectboard as soon as possible to be prepared for the grant's obtainability.

B. Dock MFG "Board Safe" Dock Options

Scott Tihansky of Board Safe introduced himself as well as Glen Moore who works building and constructing for his company. Harbormaster Mone stated that Scott and his team built the gangway and entrance of the marina and after mentioning that the town may be looking to replace some docks, Mr. Tihansky came out to show the board some product.

Mr. Tihansky started off by saying that his company, Board Safe, is a small company that he started in 2000 based about an hour north of Philadelphia, PA. Mr. Tihansky went on to say that they specialize in many custom and out of the box projects. He stated that they primarily build aluminum docks and presented two samples to the board; the company's "100 Series" and their "50 Series", and explained how Board Safe engineered them. Mr. Tihansky went on to say that he understands that the Town of Scituate is currently looking for more of a maintenance free option than the current **epay** that is there now, as he spoke more about the "100 series", saying that that this is a no stress, concrete decking that comes in a couple of variations. He went on to say that there are also choices of colors and stains available. Also saying that these planks structurally hold a lot of weight and are good for the storms and waves that Scituate tends to see but are also removable to access utilities that may be stored underneath. Mr. Tihansky also informed the board that there are also different means to hold the docks together; hinges, rigid connections, etc. He stated that they would need to get a good survey done of the existing pilings to design a system to fit what is currently there. Mr. Tihansky also spoke of a durable pipe floatation option that is different than the normally seen susceptible floatation options. He stated that these can be made to any size needed, leaving no dead spots and freeboards and cleats that can be adjusted. Mr. Tihansky reiterated that concrete decking and aluminum framing doesn't require much maintenance.

Chairperson Gibbons asked Mr. Tihansky if the panels were heavy to remove when needed to access utilities. Mr. Tihansky responded to this question by saying that these are lengthy, pre-stressed steel cables that are heavy enough so that boaters won't mess with them, but provide easy accessibility when necessary. He also went on to add that Smart Board also offers composite plans as he mentioned Scituate's need for something heavy duty. Mr. Tihansky informed the board that procuring different materials is currently a big thing to consider as this is a pretty

big job and some materials are being quoted with a six to nine-month delivery window.

Craig Rosenquist then asked Mr. Tihansky if freezing and thawing are ever an issue. Mr. Tihansky replied that there isn't as there is a buffer used with warranty on it. He went on to say that this product has been around for a while and is used on many pedestrian bridges over wetlands.

Alternate Member, T.J. Malvesti spoke up to say that he has used the concrete with wood frame option within his business's needs and recommends it.

Dave Friedman then asked if the fingers had flexibility for moving if Harbormaster Mone ever had a need. Mr. Tihansky informed Mr. Freidman that this is an option and stated that the track system allows for easy adjusting. He went on to say that other gangways may weld hinge material to support the connection, but Board Safe is relying on a mechanical connection where the weld is simply to hold the hinge from moving around. Mr. Tihansky stated that hinges and clips on the ends can be used for infinite adjustability and flexibility, and extra decking supplies are provided for reconfiguration needs.

Chairperson Gibbons then asked if this would be anchored in to concrete. Mr. Tihansky replied that he would like to see a plate put underneath for structural security that can be drilled in the field once the layout is known. He went on to say that Board Safe would dry-fit things prior, sending down much of the project assembled. Mr. Tihansky stated that he feels their product is a good structural one and his company will participate at any level of overseeing and supervising the work once the product arrives.

Chairperson Gibbons asked Mr. Tihansky if he could provide a general price per square foot for the project. Mr. Tihansky said that he'd rather not as pricing on materials continues to go up and he is currently only holding pricing for 30 days, which Mr. Gibbons understood.

Mr. Tihansky thanked the board for their time and suggested continuing to seek what other options are available to see what may be the best fit for the community. He then invited the board to look at a finished dock that they brought up with them to get a good vision of what he had presented this evening.

Old Business

A. Small Vessel Management and Access

- **Racking for Paddle Craft**

The small group reported that they will plan to discuss next steps and report back to the board at the next scheduled Waterways meeting.

- **Jericho Ramp Area Improvements**

It was discussed taking this item off of future agendas as there is nothing currently to discuss.

B. Financial Update – Brian Kelly

Mr. Kelly stated that Harbormaster Mone's budget is expected to be completed by Town of Scituate's Financial Director, Nancy Holt, by the end of the week. He went

on to say that Mr. Mone will be scheduled to present this to the Advisory Committee and Selectboard in mid-January and asked that board members be there to support if able.

C. Shellfish Closure Update

Dave Friedman started the conversation by saying that Shellfish Advisory Committee Chairperson, Susan Harrison is trying to organize a meeting to happen within the next couple of weeks. It was discussed that the North River closure is still in effect per the federal government. Mr. Friedman plans to update the board following his attendance at the next Shellfish Advisory meeting.

C. Harbor Wi-Fi

Chairperson Gibbons stated that Town of Scituate IT Director, Michael Minchello presented this topic at the last Selectboard meeting and that they will now take the next step regarding the RFP process.

Participant Q & A

Associate Member, Brian Cronin asked that the Harbor Dredging and Permitting Process be added to the January meeting agenda under the Harbormaster's report.

Waterways Member, Craig Rosenquist, updated the board regarding the Pier 44 project, saying that the town is going out for an engineering RFP. There was a census took around town where feedback was given that open park space was desired by most residents. Mr. Rosenquist also stated that Scituate's Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau is looking in to whether the funds can go towards both the design and the construction processes of the project. He informed the board that this group is now meeting twice a month to discuss updates.

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 P.M., Harbormaster Stephen Mone made the motion which was seconded by Brian Kelly and voted unanimously in favor (9-0).

Roll Call Vote:

Rick Murray (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

David Friedman (yes)

David Sincoski (yes)

David Haley (yes)

Craig Rosenquist (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Harbormaster Stephen Mone (yes)

Chairperson Mike Gibbons (yes)