

**TOWN OF SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS
WATERWAYS COMMISSION**



**MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission
Wednesday, February 7, 2024
6 PM
Scituate Library Large Conference Room/Zoom/Hybrid
85 Branch Street**

Commission Members Present: Chair; Dave Dinneen, Scituate Harbormaster; Stephen Mone, Howie Kreuzberg, Vice Chair; Brian Cronin, Dave Sincoski, Brian Kelly, Associate Member; T.J. Malvesti, Associate Member; Kevin Norton

Also in Attendance: Recording Secretary; Alicia Anthony, Select Board Liaison; Susan Harrison, Shellfish Constable; Mike Dimeo

Members Not in Attendance: Rick Murray, Mike Gibbons, Dave Haley, Associate Member; Steven Guard

Chair Dinneen called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM

Chair Dinneen read the Statement of commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to accept the meeting agenda, which was made by Harbormaster Mone, seconded by Brian Kelly, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:
Vice Chair Cronin (yes)
Brian Kelly (yes)
Dave Sincoski (yes)
Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Harbormaster Mone (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to accept the Minutes from December 6, 2023, which was made by Howie Kreutzberg, seconded by Vice Chair Cronin, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:
Vice Chair Cronin (yes)
Brian Kelly (yes)
Dave Sincoski (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Harbormaster Mone (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to accept the Minutes from January 3, 2024, which was made by Vice Chair Cronin, seconded by Howie Kreutzberg, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:
Vice Chair Cronin (yes)
Brian Kelly (yes)
Dave Sincoski (yes)
Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Harbormaster Mone (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)

Correspondence

Chair Dinneen shared meeting agendas of two upcoming meetings.

- a. Economic Development Commission Meeting, Thursday, February 8, 2024, 4:00 PM
- b. Planning Board Meeting Thursday, February 8, 2024, 6:30 PM

Closure of Shell Fishing -January 11, 2024 –

Shellfish Constable Dimeo explained that there had been an overflow of sewage plants back in January. He went on to say that this combined with over eight inches of rain that month, has prompted the closure of the North and South Rivers for recreational shell fishing. Shellfish Constable Dimeo's hope is to have the rivers open again as of this Friday as long as the tests come back good.

The Constable shared that the overflows prompted discussion with Marine Fisheries. It was decided that testing from the Sea Street Bridge up into the area of MB6 would be performed and then plant 100 bushels of quahogs in that area this summer.

Brian Kelly questioned Mr. Dimeo regarding the South River request for Grant Money for dredging.

Mr. Dimeo then spoke as the Marshfield Harbormaster and informed the commission that Marshfield's grant for the South River dredging was denied. He plans to resubmit it in May with the importance of this project highlighted in greater detail.

Harbormaster Dimeo then explained that it is possible to ask for an emergency dredge plan through DEP, but both towns would need to have the funds and contractor available with as little as 30 days' notice.

Chairman's Report

- a. Chair Dinneen brought to the board's attention that 46 years ago yesterday, was the Blizzard of 1978, which left the town with severe damage.
- b. Chair Dinneen thanked Recording Secretary Alicia Anthony for her efforts updating the Scituate Waterways Commission website.

Harbormaster Report

- a. **February 2024 Updates – Stephen Mone**

Harbormaster Mone shared that they're getting the annual bills ready as well as assigning slips.

Cohasset's waitlist is going to be opened up today through February 16th. From there it will open to the general public.

b. Woods Hole Group Surveying – 1/11/2024

Harbormaster Mone reported surveying of the four locations in the harbor was completed on 1/11/2024. Samples of material are being reviewed. Questions regarding the cost of using Mass Bay disposal site versus the Cape Cod Bay disposal site. Based on the original volume of 26,000 cubic yards it was determined to cost \$40,000 more to dispose of the material at Cape Cod Bay disposal site (Wellfleet) opposed to the Mass Bay disposal site. Additional tier three testing may be required for Mass Bay disposal which would total approximately \$120,000. Both sites have restrictions to consider.

c. Seaport Economic Council Funding - \$128,000

Harbormaster Mone indicated the Town of Scituate received a grant for \$128,000 from the Seaport Economic Council for a feasibility study and schematic drawing to decide if the Harbormaster building can be renovated. Discussion focused on working with elected officials to watch availability of grants.

Old Business

a. Scituate Maritime Parking Lot

Chair Dinneen reported that Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau is working on selecting an engineer for the project. They will be meeting soon to discuss the project.

b. Harbor Wi-Fi Update

Chair Dinneen shared that Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau received a proposal from ayacht Technology Solutions to design a new Wi-Fi system for the two town marinas. Chair Dinneen and Mike Gibbons are working to receive additional quotes to share with Harbormaster Mone, IT Director Mike Minchello, and Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau.

c. Dock Boxes Update – Brian Cronin

Chair Dinneen, Vice Chair Cronin and Harbormaster Mone were able to get the updated language requested by the Select Board and Town Council. ADA has also been signed off by the State of Massachusetts. It was agreed that the Waterways Commission will request the Select Board's approval.

d. Dingy Fees – David Sincoski

Mr. Sincoski shared that he has been meeting with Harbormaster Mone and Assistant Harbormaster Bearce. They have modified the Dingy Program. Their recommendation is to conduct a social media blast to inform the public of the unsold spots and that Scituate will be ending the current dingy waiting list program as of March 1st. This will give anyone that may have been on the list a chance to come to the Harbormaster's office and claim a spot. On May 1st, the town will send another social media blast sharing how many unsold spots are still available. On August 1st the dingy waiting list and process will move to an online process.

Mr. Sincoski recommended to the Commission that before the 2025 boating season, increasing dingy fees to \$500.00 per season and the flat bottom boats fees to \$1,000 fee. Phrasing of boats will be changed in final document with some additional modifications.

Dave Sincoski made a motion to immediately disband the dingy document waiting list, which was seconded by Howie Kreutzberg, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Vice Chair Cronin (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Harbormaster Mone (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)

Liaison Reports

a. SHARC (Pier 44) - Howie Kreutzberg

Mr. Kreutzberg reported that the engineers are continuing with their part as well as permitting. The plan is to submit a request for funding at the Fall Town Meeting.

b. Economic Development Commission – Howie Kreutzberg

Mr. Kreutzberg shared that the Economic Development Commission is working on projects.

c. Cole Parkway Redevelopment Committee – Cole Parkway Resiliency Project – Mike Gibbons

Chair Dinneen shared on Mr. Gibbons' behalf, that the Cole Parkway Redevelopment Committee and the Cole Parkway Resiliency Project is moving forward. This week, engineers are core sampling at eleven sites on Cole Parkway.

d. Shellfish Advisory Committee –

Shellfish Constable, Mike Dimeo covered this topic at the beginning of the meeting.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Police Department Update – Brendan McAuley

Chair Dinneen reported on Officer McAuley's behalf that they have been training on the new boat as well as qualifying staff to captain the boat.

Financial Update - Brian Kelly

Mr. Kelly had nothing to report.

Vice Chair Cronin shared that the financial working group is working to bring together some recommendations for the Waterways Commission for the March meeting.

Participants Q&A

Brad White, 149 Old main Street Marshfield inquired about the Plymouth Power Plant's plans for disposing of their water, which the commission didn't have updates on. Select Board Liaison, Ms. Harrison was able to report that the Scituate Select Board as well as the Duxbury Select Board wrote letters to support against H-Tech dumping in the waters into Cape Cod Bay.

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m., which was made by Howie Kreutzberg, seconded by Vice Chair Cronin, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Vice Chair Cronin (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Chair Dinneen (yes)