

**TOWN OF SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS
WATERWAYS COMMISSION**



**MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission
Wednesday, March 6, 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, Dave Sincoski, Associate Member; T.J. Malvesti, Mike Gibbons, Associate Member; Kevin Norton, Dave Haley, Rick Murray, Brian Kelly, Vice Chair; Brian Cronin,

Also in Attendance: Recording Secretary; Alicia Anthony, Select Board Liaison; Susan Harrison, IT Director Mike Minchello

Members Not in Attendance: Associate Member; Steven Guard

Chair Dinneen called the meeting to order at 6:07 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 Howie Kreutzberg, seconded by Mike Gibbons, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

**Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Dave Sincoski (yes)
Harbormaster Mone (yes)
Vice Chair Cronin (yes)
Mike Gibbons (yes)
David Haley (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)**

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to accept the Minutes from February 7, 2023, which was made by Dave Haley, seconded by Brian Cronin, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

**Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Dave Sincoski (yes)
Harbormaster Mone (yes)**

Vice Chair Cronin (yes)
Mike Gibbons (yes)
David Haley (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)

Correspondence

a. Operational Criteria - GAI Consultants Memo

Harbormaster Mone spoke about a memo received from GAI Consultants regarding constraints on Scituate Marina in terms of winds and tides. The insurance policy may require all boats, to be removed when the town issues a storm warnings depending on the strength of the storm and anticipated wind activity. The commission discussed and agreed that Harbormaster Mone will get more clarification on these expectations prior to bringing it to the Select Board with recommendations.

Chairman's Report

Chair Dinneen shared that the Waterways Commission has two agenda items on the Select Board's upcoming March 12th meeting. The finalizing of the dock boxes and the changes made to the dinghy program will both be discussed that evening.

Chair Dinneen brought up the idea of adding a line item to future agendas for Commercial Fishermen to report.

Harbormaster Report

a. February 2024 Updates – Stephen Mone

Harbormaster Mone reported restrictions on days at sea that lobstermen have shared with him. He brought up the idea of pushing off collecting mooring fees from lobstermen and fishermen to June 1st each year to alleviate having to come up with it sooner.

Howie Kreutzberg made a motion to move on the Harbormaster's recommendation to change the Limited Entry Licensed Fishermen and Lobstermen's yearly mooring fee due dates to June 1st, which was seconded by Rick Murray, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Dave Sincoski (yes)
Harbormaster Mone (yes)
Vice Chair Cronin (yes)
Mike Gibbons (yes)
David Haley (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)

b. Woods Hole Group Surveying – Updates

Harbormaster Mone reported that the lab report has been sent to the Army Corp of Engineers. He went on to share that tier one and tier two testing are complete. The Army Core will get back to him to let him know if tier three testing is needed to go to Mass Bay.

Harbormaster Mone informed the commission that from there they will need to decide where to send the material.

Harbormaster Mone's thoughts are if tier three testing is needed for both locations, the material should just go to Mass Bay as its about half the distance and will save money. If it can go to Cape Cod Bay without tier three testing, that would be a substantial savings.

- c. **Harbormaster Building Feasibility Study - Status moving forward. Timeline.**
Harbormaster Mone reported that he sent back the returned and signed contract to the Seaport Economic Council and will wait for them to return it with their signature to begin the process of RFP for architects.
- d. **2024 Marina/Mooring Invoices – how is it going so far.**
Harbormaster Mone stated that all of the marina and mooring invoices have gone out, including Cohasset's, and that payments are coming in.
- e. **Updates on Cohasset Harbor**
Nothing new to report.

Old Business

- a. **Scituate Maritime Parking Lot**
Chair Dinneen shared that Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau reported that the engineer was assigned last week. He also shared that the work has begun. The Town Administrator met with Mr. Johnson, a friend of Howie Kreutzberg's and they agreed that some drainage will have to happen. The Town Administrator reported that repairs will be made to the parking lot prior to the Maritime Center as a final plan is designed and prepared.
- b. **Harbor Wi-Fi Update**
Chair Dinneen shared that getting Wi-Fi in the Harbor is proving to be a bigger challenge than had been predicted. He went on to say that there is a chance this might not be possible at all. Chair Dinneen would like the commission to look at the possibilities of getting the two marinas and the commercial fishing wharf set up to have wireless access to meet boaters' needs. Scituate IT Director, Mike Minchello shared his thoughts on the dock-based solutions versus the land based. The commission agreed that the next step is to identify a scope and make a list of what is most wanted. A small working group was created consisting of Chair Dinneen, Mike Gibbons, and Mr. Minchello.
- c. **Dinghy Updates. Vote needed regarding fees.**
Chair Dinneen reported that he thought the motion the commission submitted last month was a little vague and asked that they make it clearer.
Vice Chair, Brian Cronin made a motion to approve the recommendations by the Waterways Commission to update the procedures for the dinghy wait list beginning with the 2025 boating season increasing the fee to \$500 per season for boats up to 12 feet and \$1,000 per season for boats 13 to 14 feet, which was seconded by Rick Murray, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0), by roll call vote.
Roll Call Vote:
Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Dave Sincoski (yes)
Harbormaster Mone (yes)
Vice Chair Cronin (yes)
Mike Gibbons (yes)
David Haley (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)
- d. **South River -Update**
There were no updates on the South River. It was reported that clamming is back open in the area.

Liaison Reports

- a. **SHARC (Pier 44) Howie Kreutzberg**
Howie Kreutzberg reported that the engineers continue to work and are applying for permits. He shared that SHARC is expecting to ask at fall town meeting for additional funding when plans are solidified and permits are in.

Chair Dinneen reported that 60% of cost estimate is expected for the next SHARC meeting. Also sharing that 90% design and specs are expected in Spring 2024.

b. Economic Development Commission – Howie Kreutzberg, Dave Dinneen

There were no updates on the Economic Development Commission to report.

c. Cole Parkway Redevelopment Committee – Cole Parkway resiliency project– Mike Gibbons

Mike Gibbons reported that twelve test pits were bored along the Cole Parkway area as part of the engineering contract.

d. Shellfish Advisory Committee – Susan Harrison, Select Board

Select Board Liaison and Shellfish Advisory Chair, Susan Harrison stated that there were no additional updates to report.

New Business

a. Emergency Switch shut offs for the marina. Stephen Mone

Harbormaster Mone shared that a new code requires that Cole Parkway Marina has emergency disconnect switches throughout. He stated that the code changed between the time of design and the construction and will be needed every 50 feet. Harbormaster Mone shared that the plan will be to add firehouses with red lights on them along with instructions to use.

Howie Kreutzberg asked what the cost of this would be. Harbormaster Mone quoted around \$70,000 which will come out of leftover project funds. Harbormaster Mone has a change order going to the Town Administrator that he will send to the Select Board to sign off to get the pedestals installed. He also shared that the temporary occupancy certificate will be extended and the Marina will open on time.

Police Department Update – Brendan McAuley

Scituate Police Officer, Craig Keefe spoke in Officer McAuley's absence. He shared that there was an oil issue with the new boat. This was due to the cold weather and has since been corrected.

Financial Update - Brian Kelly

There were no financial updates to report.

a. Working Group Update – Brian Cronin

Brian Cronin reported that the working group will have their presentation for the April meeting.

Participants Q&A

There were no participant questions.

Chair Dinneen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 p.m., which was seconded by Brian Cronin, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Vice Chair Cronin (yes)

Mike Gibbons (yes)

David Haley (yes)

Chair Dinneen (yes)