

**TOWN OF SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS
WATERWAYS COMMISSION**



**MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission
Wednesday, April 3, 2024
6 PM**

**Scituate Library Large Conference Room/Zoom/Hybrid
85 Branch Street**

Commission Members Present: Chair; Dave Dinneen, Scituate Harbormaster; Stephen Mone, Mike Gibbons, Vice Chair; Brian Cronin, Howie Kreuzberg, Dave Sincoski, Dave Haley, Brian Kelly

Also in Attendance: Recording Secretary; Alicia Anthony, Select Board Liaison; Susan Harrison

Members Not in Attendance: Rick Murray, Associate Member; T.J. Malvesti, Associate Member; Kevin Norton, Associate Member; Steven Guard

Chair Dinneen called the meeting to order at 6:04 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 Vice Chair Cronin, seconded by Dave Haley, and voted unanimously in favor (8-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Gibbons (yes)

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Vice Chair Cronin (yes)

Dave Haley (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Chair Dinneen (yes)

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to accept the Minutes from March 6, 2024 with corrections, which was made by Mike Gibbons, seconded by Vice Chair Cronin, and voted unanimously in favor (8-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Gibbons (yes)

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Vice Chair Cronin (yes)

Dave Haley (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)
Brian Kelly (yes)
Howie Kreutzberg (yes)
Chair Dinneen (yes)

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Chairman's Report

Chair Dinneen thanked the library staff and Scituate TV Director, Seth Pfeiffer, for teaching the systems to the commission for the most effective meetings.

Harbormaster Report

Harbormaster office has been collecting 2024 fees. He shared that 400 out of about 1,000 people have paid so far with 15 days left until the due date.

Updates include:

Harbormaster Mone is waiting to hear back from the Army Corps regarding the harbor dredging project. Still approximately a year to go.

Harbormaster Mone is working with town officials to create an RFP for the feasibility study for the Harbormaster building.

Harbormaster Mone is prepping for the returning and new seasonal staff. They will start putting the fingers back together at the Scituate Maritime Center, as well as pulling up the deicers.

Chair Dinneen then asked how things went with the dinghy changes. Harbormaster Mone said that everybody that showed up got a dinghy spot and that there were just enough. Next, Chair Dinneen asked if the kayak program will run as it did last year. He will assign names that are currently in the box and thinks everyone will get one a rack. Chair Dinneen asked where the pile driving project stands.

Harbormaster Mone said he put out a bid document to replace the piles that were broken at the town pier and at Jericho Road. The contractor was already working in the area, which reduced the mobilization and demobilization costs.

Howie Kreutzberg asked where money came from. Harbormaster Mone stated when the initial pier project was completed, there was some money left over and he tried to return it to Seaport Advisory Council. They had asked him to keep the funds in the repair account. The money in that account has been used over the years to do some repairs on various maintenance issues including the hoist on town pier as well as a motor replacement. The remaining \$10,000 took care of the piles at the Town Pier and a grant was used for the pile at Jericho Road. Chair Dinneen asked how things were going with the Dock Boxes. Harbormaster Mone shared that he's had a couple of people ask about the sizes. Finally, Chair Dinneen asked if there were any updates on Cohasset Harbor. Harbormaster Mone had no updates on the town level and is still collecting money for the moorings.

Financial Update - Brian Kelly

Brian Kelly stated that he had nothing to report and that revenues won't show signs of movement until June meeting due to credit card payments timing.

a. Working Group Update – Brian Cronin

Vice Chair Cronin shared current and past rates for the Marina, mooring and waterways usage fees. He shared that the Working Group has been discussing ways to maximize revenue for the town based on what there is currently. Vice Chair Cronin shared the group's recommendations of how to do so; implement pay to park, add a truck to truck permit at the Town Pier, and Maximize slip leases, mooring assignments, user fees, and transient revenue.

The commission discussed these thoughts and concluded they will bring individual ideas to next month's meeting.

Old Business

a. Scituate Maritime Parking Lot

Chair Dinneen reported that Town Administrator Boudreau informed him that weather has slowed the Maritime Parking Lot project but the DPW will begin making repairs shortly in preparation for the season opening of the Maritime Center. He also shared that once the boats are back in the water, the engineering department will continue on designing a drainage plan. TA Boudreau says the money sources will depend on the estimate cost of the project.

b. Harbor Wi-Fi Update

Chair Dinneen met with IT Director, Mike Minchello, Harbormaster Mone, Mike Gibbons, to look at the harbor Wi-Fi history, what's happening with additional services coming to the harbor, and how financially this project can move forward. They discussed the options suggested by the commission. Chair Dinneen was also able to confirm that one vendor, Ayacht has a help desk, they are on the state vendor list, and is working for the town. Ayacht has been recommended by IT Director Minchello and can provide a quote for Wi-Fi services. Brian Kelly shared his concerns on the costs of all of this.

NEW – Chair Dinneen shared that Marshfield Harbormaster, Mike Dimeo was going to join tonight's meeting but was unable to. Chair Dinneen shared that Harbormaster Mone and Harbormaster Dimeo went back to the Seaport Council looking for additional funding opportunities. Currently, state funding is very limited. He shared that Senator Patrick O'Connor is going to add money to the state budget for dredging of the South River. This will be added as an ear mark. The Scituate and Marshfield Harbormasters are working with legislative teams for permit grants that they had applied for. Next, Harbormaster Dimeo's report shared that the clam flats are going well and that they are planning a shellfish relay similar to last years for this June/July. Harbormaster Dimeo's report also stated that Briggs Harbor Oyster Farmers are back out and that they may have their first harvest this September.

Liaison Reports

a. SHARC (Pier 44) Howie Kreutzberg

It was shared that while the engineers continue to do their work, the public comment period for the environmental monitor was closed. The MEPA Certificate is scheduled to be received by April 8th with a site plan review to be submitted in mid-April. Chair Dinneen also shared they plan to get NOI to the Conservation Commission next month.

b. Economic Development Commission – Howie Kreutzberg

It was reported that there isn't much new going on at this commission.

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

Mike Gibbons shared that this project is still in study mode since the testing was completed.

d. Shellfish Advisory Committee – Susan Harrison, Select Board

Chair Dinneen shared updates in Harbormaster Dimeo's report to the commission.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Police Department Update

The Harbor Unit will now be run by Officer Norton while Officer McAuley recovers.

Fishermen/Lobstermen Update

Scituate Resident and Commercial Fisherman, Dave Dauphinee, shared that the fishermen and lobstermen have another month to go regarding speed restrictions on Cape Cod Bay.

Participants Q&A

Scituate Resident, Dave Dauphinee, of 356 Clapp Rd, asked if there was any update from the Army Corps on the North Jetty. Harbormaster Mone responded that they are putting this in their federal budget and thinks probably 2026.

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m., which was made by Howie Kreutzberg, seconded by Mike Gibbons, and voted unanimously in favor (8-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Mike Gibbons (yes)

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Vice Chair Cronin (yes)

Dave Haley (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

Brian Kelly (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Chair Dinneen (yes)