TOWN OF SCITUATE



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# MEETING MINUTES Waterways Commission Meeting Wednesday January 4, 2017 N.O.A.A. Meeting Room 175 Edward Foster Rd. 7:15 pm

**Commission Members in Attendance**: Fran McMillen, Brian Cronin, David Friedman, Brian Kelly, Keith Walo, Michael Lorusso, David Glancy, Michael Gibbons, Stephen Mone

## **Commission Members Absent**:

Also in Attendance: Shawn Harris (Board of Selectman)

The Meeting was called to order at 7:16pm by Fran McMillen.

## Acceptance of Agenda

Move that the Waterways Commission approve the agenda for January 4, 2017 meeting. Motion by David Friedman Second by David Glancy Unanimous Vote (9-0)

## **Acceptance of Minutes**

Move that the Waterways Commission approve the meeting minutes for December 7, 2016 meeting. Motion by Brian Cronin Second by Brian Kelly Unanimous Vote (9-0)

# **Opening Remarks:**

Fran McMillen opened by telling everyone that the consultant's report had been extended to 1/6/17. The Town Administrator said she will turn it around as quickly as possible. The third week in January is most likely when the WWC will receive the copy. Fran does not know if it will be a draft or a final report. Perhaps, a special meeting will be called to order to go over the report. It was brought up that it should be completed by early spring.

# Harbormaster Report:

Stephen Mone, Harbormaster, said all of the docks are out of the water. Stephen thanked Glancy Crane and Keith Walo for their assistance as well as the Harbormaster staff. Stephen met with David Friedman and Fran McMillen regarding the budget. The South River dredge project is moving along. He said they are waiting to hear from the Air Force. Michael Gibbons asked if they've picked a spot yet for the dredge project/sand removed. Stephen said some landowners and are asking the Air Force for secondary location. Keith Walo asked about a building going up near the Marine Center for kayaks, etc. Stephen said it will be a shed for things that they sell to boaters (oil and other marine related items) which is within their lease. Dick Eckhouse asked about the

Sandy Fund and why it has to be re-negotiated with the Air Force. Stephen said it has to do with the grain size of the sand. They are currently running tests. Michael Gibbons recommended inviting Nancy Durfee to the next WWC meeting. Michael said 6 months ago it was a high priority. Keith Walo asked a question about dock plans. Stephen said he is supposed to hear of these plans.

# Old Business:

Consultant Report: Keith asked Fran when the Commission receive the final draft. Shawn Harris clarified that Patricia Vinchesi will get the draft and go over it from a financial stand point then it will go back to the consultant. Then it will go to the Waterways Commission and then to the Board of Selectman. Shawn Harris thinks that the WWC should have it before the next WWC meeting in February. It was discussed that maybe the Commission pushes the joint meeting with Marshfield WW to the next month (March). David Friedman said it's just a consultant report and it's nothing set in stone. Keith Walo and Fran McMillen think it will be much more than that. The whole idea of having a consultant is to aid in producing a new report. Keith said that there are a lot of people that will want to speak on this report. Brian Kelly said that he assumes the consultant should have used some of the ideas that the Scituate Waterways Commission came up with. Shawn Harris said that the consultant looked into 20 different towns. Peter Toppan suggested the Scituate High School auditorium for a location to have a meeting regarding the report. Keith Walo said it's not open yet. Other ideas were the high school cafeteria. Brad White said that three years ago a bunch of people attended a meeting in Marshfield. He said they worked on a memorandum of understanding (for dredging, management, and who could talk to who) but it was never voted on. He said unless there's agreement between the two towns, it won't get signed. Stephen Mone said that the T.A. said Scituate had looked at it and sent it back to Marshfield. When it was sent back to Scituate it was changed considerably. Brad suggests that WWC comes up with a document to be signed by both towns in order to get traction on working together. Brian Cronin talked to the T.A. in late summer. Patricia said she would talk to Marshfield's T.A. Shawn Harris said that he would look into it. David Friedman asked about the lease at the Scituate Maritime Center in regards to the overcrowding in the parking lot. Shawn Harris said that Nancy Holt saw it first hand after the last WWC meeting. She has spoken to the leasee. Stephen Mone said some boats have been moved.

**Waterways Management Plan:** David Friedman, Brian Kelly and Fran McMillen have met on this. They will be breaking sections out and updating parts to be relevant. They feel that revisions are more cost efficient than a whole new plan. Keith asked Howie Kreutzberg's input. Howie suggested talking to someone from UMass Boston to find out exactly what is expected. Brian said that Scituate's is the most current in the area. If a municipality doesn't have a harbor plan, it doesn't end up high on the list for grants. Howie also said that Charlie Baker is looking for municipalities for dredging assistance. Fran McMillen said it's for private marinas. Jim Spelman said that Marshfield's Harbor Plan was recently updating and it's worth looking at.

**Financial Overview**: David Friedman said it's confusing looking at the Waterways budget. If bills are paid in March when they are billed, they do not go into the correct fiscal year for which they are billed for. When bills are paid, it depends on when they are submitted. David is still working on this. He has only looked at the revenue side of the budget at this point. Kathy Donahue says that the bills are always sent out the same time. She suggests each year should be similar. There was discussion about two donations that were made to the Harbormasters Office that are listed on the budget sheets. Keith Walo had a question about Fiscal Year 2018 budget \$42,000 police personnel. He asked if money comes out of the Enterprise Fund, will it be voted on. Keith said that the fuel for

the police boat comes out of the T.A.'s budget and questioned why the fuel budget jumped. Michael Gibbons suggested that the Commission come up with a list of questions regarding the budget to give Stephen Mone time to gather the answers. Keith Walo asked about budget item regarding storing docks. He thinks that keeping docks in the harbor in the winter would cost a lot of money and might not actually keep the ice away from the docks. The inner harbor collects a lot of ice. Stephen Mone said he was asked to come up with alternatives. It's not for sure happening. Michael Lorusso said his docks up river have never been removed. There are costs for ice damage but it's much cheaper than the alternative of removing them and transporting them to a different location. David Dauphinee said moving ice is what will cause the damage. Stephen said the docks could get damaged but so could the new pilings. David Friedman said the list on the budget is "wish list" that have to get approved and not definitely happening. There was discussion about moving the floats in a different location as to where they are now in Cole Parkway. It would be very expensive and it would not be good for the floats to move them around so much. Shawn Harris suggested having the ice broken on a frequent basis to avoid a large iceberg.

## New Business:

Joint Meeting with Marshfield WW: this will be updated as it gets closer

Action List: Dick Eckhouse had created an action list many years ago to gauge whether the Waterways Commission was effective. Fran said there are many things that wouldn't be worth putting on an action list. He will have copies available of an action list at the next meeting. Brian Cronin suggested getting copies of it before the next meeting so that they can talk about it at the meeting.

Brad White spoke about buying a dredge for \$1.1million. Years ago, people from Scituate went to hear about this possibility. Kingston was the only town that bought one. It doesn't get used. He said the Town of Scituate could use it, with a cost. Marshfield is also looking for input on any suggestions for Green Harbor updates.

Next meeting is a joint meeting in Marshfield (location to be determined) February 1, 2017

## **Adjournment**

There being no other business a motion was made by Fran McMillen to adjourn at 8:32pm second by Brian Kelly Unanimous Vote (9-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelli Rodgers Recording Secretary