

600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway Scituate, Massachusetts 02066 Phone: 781-545-8716 FAX: 781-545-8704

# MEETING MINUTES Waterways Commission Meeting Wednesday, May 1, 2019 Maritime Center

**Commission Members in Attendance:** Brian Kelly, Chair; Howie Kreutzberg, Vice Chair; Michael Gibbons; David Friedman; Tucker (James) Patterson; Stephen Mone, Harbormaster; Craig Rosenquist

Commission Members not in Attendance: David Sincoski

**Also in Attendance**: David Haley, Associate Member; Shawn Harris, BOS; Elise Russo, Advisory

The meeting was called to order by Brian Kelly at 7:03 PM.

Brian Kelly asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 3rd, 2019 meeting, David Friedman made a motion, seconded by Mike Gibbons; Unanimous Vote (6-0).

Brian Kelly made motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Mike Gibbons; Unanimous Vote (6-0).

Tucker Patterson walked into the meeting at 7:08 PM

#### **Harbormaster Report – Stephen Mone**

#### **Pedestal/Electrical Project:**

- Funding was approved at last Town meeting
- Bid was awarded for acquisition of pedestals
- Marshfield company won bid, but did not want to sign contract
- \$400 more for the next bidder: B and B Electric (Matt) out of Michigan
- Working with customer service at Eaton for lead times (4 weeks was quoted) now it is up to 5-6 weeks.
- Submitted purchase order, 5/27/2019 delivery date, but half of the order could be delivered 2 weeks prior
- Electrician hired
- Cable in place already in Cole Parkway and Maritime marinas
- Electricity has not been turned on yet
- Replaced old wires

#### Plan A

If we are able to get half the pedestals the week of the 12<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> we could possibly bring up enough power until the other half of the pedestals arrived.

#### Plan B

Should the pedestals not come in, the electrician could come in to certify what units (if any) could be used for a limited amount of time

May 15<sup>th</sup> is the open date of the Marinas.

David Friedman asked at what point would we let boat/slip owners know that there may be a problem with the electricity, Stephen said that he asked Brian to have Waterways draft a letter. Brian Kelly and Mike Gibbons will write the letter to inform the slip owners they may be without electricity and water for a few weeks and to arrive with fully charged batteries. Letter will go out by the 10<sup>th</sup> of May.

Howie said some boats require power from the start for refrigerators for example. Maybe a dozen of the larger boats would be affected by the situation.

If the electrician cannot certify all the pedestals, we can try to move some of the bigger boats to areas where the pedestals will work.

Brian Kelly asked for a motion to send a letter out to the slip owners in the two marinas to make them aware of the potential situation with the electricity and water, seconded by David Friedman; Unanimous Vote (7-0).

Stephen said that the pilings at the Town Pier were replaced with 4 Greenheart wood pilings. Were able to save money because they used the barge from the Yacht Club.

## **River dredging Project:**

• Gone out to bid, awarded tomorrow at 10:00 AM

# **Marina Pilings Project:**

- Still involved in arbitration with DEP
- Need legal expertise, would recommend that the Town seeks outside counsel

Howie Kreutzberg made a motion that the Waterways Commission recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they hire special counsel who is familiar with marine environmental affairs to resolve the outstanding issues with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection regarding the current Cole Parkway Marina Piling Project, seconded by David Friedman; Unanimous Vote (7-0)

Stephen said that Mike Bearce is in the process of assigning moorings:

- Gave out 12
- Dropped 6 from the list
- 20 outstanding calls and emails
- On-going process

Stephen also said that all docks and boats are in and that the fingers at Cole Parkway will be put back in place this week and that overall, we are in good shape.

David Friedman asked how the assistant harbormaster staff was, Stephen said good, 90% of people are returning and he made few new hires.

#### Shellfish Committee Meeting update - Craig Rosenquist

• Title Issue: Town Counsel may look into issue

Stephen asked what department will be billed by Town Counsel

- Survey of the flats, who is the owner: working with the Town Administrator to fund and also in discussions with the Economic Council
  - Drone
  - Morse Quote
- Access through Cohasset may be an issue
- Rules and Regulations: will be done in the next two meetings. Using Duxbury's as a footprint
  - Granting of the leases
  - Application process, creating a form to choose the best candidate
    - Will not be a lottery nor first come, first serve

David Friedman asked if access through Cohasset would be deal killer, Craig said the issue is with parking; it could stop the project along with the title issue.

Mike Gibbons said someone from Cohasset could bid for a shell fishing spot.

There is precedent; some of the moorings have been used by Scituate in the past, specifically the mossing boats.

Stephen asked if they will advertise and if you had to be a resident, Craig said yes.

#### Driftway Ramp Improvement, David Sincoski was not able to attend meeting

• Early conversations with the Conservation Commission

David Friedman asked if there was a way to get the line resprayed in the parking lot, Stephen said he spoke with Mike Breen, DPW and it is on the list.

## Future Mooring/Slip fee discussion - tabled until June/July

• There was a question if large capital projects would be able to be added to debt service instead of retained earnings, Brian spoke with Nancy and they can be added as long as you do not go beyond the life expectancy of the item. 2021/2022 debt service goes down and really drops off in 2024, so that is where the opportunities would be.

• If we get FEMA reimbursement, we will get \$200,000 back in retained earnings. Will have to follow up with Nancy, if we do not receive the money because retained earnings should not fall below \$500,000.

# David Friedman thinks we should have a meeting on $\underline{\text{Wednesday July }10^{\text{th}}}$ to discuss the slip fees.

#### **Re-gridding - initial discussion**

- Predicated on software system being operational
- Will know this week when company comes in for software update, Stephen will move the date to Monday so Brian Kelly can attend
- Will be able to see what moorings need to be added to the database

David Friedman asked if Stephen liked the software, Stephen said yes. David Friedman asked if we should spend the money to re-grid the harbor. Brian Kelly said it may be an increase of 10% - 20% in additional moorings and we can make the best use of space. It will cost money initially but there would be a little payback.

Brian gave an example of adding 80 new moorings (10% increase) and that it would add \$16,000 in revenue so would not offset the cost completely, but we could service more people.

<u>Keith Walo</u>, 200 Country Way said that he thought the amount of moorings was 600, and that there is a huge cost to re-grid, financially and emotionally.

<u>Rick Murray</u>, 15 Collier Road said that the number in the harbor was about 50 moorings in total and that when they tried to do this in the past, they ran into the emotional aspect of moving mooring spots and he just wanted the Commission to be prepared. The fairways were messed up back then, but have been improved since. It would make more financial sense if you used the screw type moorings with the rubber bands.

<u>Phyllis Karlberg, 26 Hewes Road</u>, said that the average size of boats has increased about 10 feet and that you also need swing room. We don't want boats to get scratches on them from being too close.

Howie said we have to weigh all factors, but this is the best time to look at re-gridding.

<u>Fire Chief Murphy</u> said we may want more open space instead of more moorings. Also, he said you can put "like" boats near each other so they swing together.

<u>David Haley</u>, <u>Associate Member</u> said we are losing some moorings at half and low tide now due to silt from storms. Brian said the single permit was approved going forward for all the dredging. Stephen said he was not sure when the RFP was going to go out.

David Haley also said that the bank near the Bank of America by Saint Mary's. is slowly disappearing.

Shawn Harris did not know who owed the property. David thought Conservation owned the property. Rick Murray thought it could be Conservation as well.

#### **Potential Pedestal Notification**

• Letter will be drafted

<u>Keith Walo</u> said that he thinks the electricity and water is going to be a bigger issue than the Commission thinks. David Friedman said that possibly everyone will not go in the first week and the people that do, Stephen will try to move them to slips that have power.

Brian said we are not understating the response; we just want to give people a heads up about the situation. Brian said we may get half the pedestals in time so we have to wait before we send out the letter because the situation may change.

Next Meeting: Wednesday June 5th at the Maritime Center.

There being no more business to discuss, Brian Kelly made a motion to adjourn at 8:03 PM, seconded by David Friedman; Unanimous Vote (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Lianne Cataldo Recording Secretary

#### **List of Documents:**

- Agenda
- Meeting Minutes from 04/03/19

#### **Agenda Items:**

Driftway Ramp Improvements Slip Fees – July 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting

#### **On-Going Items:**

- Driftway Ramp:
  - Brad White continue to work with Ducks Unlimited
  - Once a direction is established, David Sincoski and Brian agreed to work with Frank Snow and the Conservation Committee
  - David Sincoski, Ed Dixon and Brad White to be the point people
  - Design of ramp needed
  - Stephen to look into Capital Plan to see how much money was available.
- Stephen Mone to start the process of selecting an engineering firm to start Master Dredging Plan
- David Friedman to work on discrepancies before sending final Slip Contract to Town Council for review
- Security Cameras for Harbor and Rivers:

- Look into getting access to Marshfield cameras to see the rivers
- Identify blind spots, check with Scituate Harbor Yacht Club to see if they would allow cameras on their property to help monitor the harbor.
- Look into current live feed and to see if monitored by Police
- Brian asked Stephen to look into the cost of adding the Dockwa portion or a built-in module that would allow the online system of the Mooring Info (Software) to work properly
- David Friedman to do a cost savings analysis of the deicer usage