



**Waterways Commission Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday April 1, 2015  
Scituate Library  
7:15 pm**

***In attendance:*** Bob McHugh, Richard Eckhouse, Peter Toppan, Mike Gibbons, Michael Bearce, Keith Walo, Fran McMillen, Brad White, Shawn Harris

***Also in Attendance:*** Brian Cronin, Dave Glancy, Vinnie Lanoue, Steve Guard, Howie Kreutzberg, Madeline Vachon

**I. Call Meeting to Order** - Eckhouse: 7:14pm

**II. Acceptance of Agenda** – revised agenda approved unanimously

**III. February 4<sup>th</sup> minutes** – Eckhouse, 1<sup>st</sup> motion, Dave 2<sup>nd</sup> second

**IV. Opening remarks** - Eckhouse

A. **General comments** – Eckhouse-

- Dick asked for some volunteers to revise the harbor management plan.
- Capital planning working group will be assembled to help the harbormaster.
- The 16' length for the liability insurance on the boats was approved by the BOS
- Dick is concerned with GIS system, are we collecting all the fees we should from moorings and slips.
- Notice of intent to build a dock for 4 Postscript Lane, South River Humarock for a boat ramp; team to review the drawings

B. **Review of Action Items list** – Eckhouse – No comments have been given on the action items

**Mike Meilla and Matt Fradette from Dockwa.com**

Mike and Matt gave the committee a presentation on Dockwa.com which is an online program to help facilitate transient boaters to use marinas and make the process seamless. They will be launching in May, they currently have 50 marinas in the area participating. When a boater signs up for the app, their information is repopulated in to the app. The pricing is uploaded based on the town's requirements.

Within the reservation details you can see the boaters name, boat name, length of boat and length of stay. This will help the management of the marinas.

*Brad: While you hold a deposit and before the marina gets paid, are you bonded? Can we get the booking data? Are there any marinas nearby involved? What marinas have transient inventory available and how much?*

*Mike: the reconciliation, we are the holder of the finds, we do weekly deposits. We have a strict cancelation possibly no refund within 72 hours, 21 days full refund. No one is doing the boating reservation like this; we are a first market mover. Can we link the Scituate website to your website and can your website link through ours? Newport is 60% transient, Boston 25% transient, other customer 95% are seasonal. Seasonal customers will also be able to check out on the app.*

*Brad: how do you make money?*

*Mike: the app is free, we take a convenience fee of \$5; it is very transparent to the boater.*

## **V. Old Business**

**A. Marinas** – Bearce – The marinas are scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> they are finishing up final repairs on the docks. There are piling issues that are being repaired. We are putting in 3 steel pilings instead of wood. We are using a pile driver at the same time for the town pier.

*Dave: there is a boat on a mooring upside down*

*Mike: I spoke with him, and they are on it. It belongs to Bob Briggs.*

*Brad: Mr. Patterson's boat removed?*

*Mike: Tucker said it will be out before the season starts May 15<sup>th</sup>.*

*Mike: The harbormaster building we had someone come in to look at the heating units. The town is weighting out the options with Kevin Kelly.*

Town Pier update: they will be here next week, benches are in and paving is on schedule and have a ribbon cutting in the spring. It will be complete by May.

## **B. Status of Capital Improvements** – Bearce

**C. Status of RFP for maintenance dredging** – Bearce – CLE won the proposal; Kevin Cafferty has the paper, and is drawing up a contract. Tricia will sign off.

*Dick: who will manage the project?*

*Mike: I believe Mike Dimeo and myself.*

*Brad: do we have money and date for clam reseeded?*

*Mike: we do not, I will be involved now and my permit paper work has been submitted. I am new to the position and informed committee they didn't see any issues with this.*

**D. GIS update** – Gibbons/Kreutzberg – It would be roughly \$700 dollars for license and it would not have any data that was in there from before.

*Peter: would that be on the meeting at the 21<sup>st</sup>?*

*Dick: it may, if you plan to come I will make sure we have enough seats.*

## **E. Salt marsh mitigation** – Bearce/Eckhouse/O'Connell – No update

## **F. Status of MOU with Marshfield** – Eckhouse – No update, we are waiting on the lawyers

**G. Status of Plymouth County Dredge** – Bearce/ Eckhouse – We will wait to see how things go; we will not participate.

**H. Enterprise Fund update** – Eckhouse/Bearce – Dick handed a spread sheet out to the team for review. The \$200,000 will be a bond issue and not come from enterprise fund. There is also money appropriated for items that were approved and has not been used yet. If we end up paying the \$100,000 fine for salt marsh mitigation it will come out of one of those accounts. At some point we

are going to not have enough money in the enterprise fund and we will have to raise mooring fees. The harbormaster needs a new truck and an all-seasonal boat to use. These items are on the horizon and we need to figure out where the funds are coming from or how to get them.

Keith: we already have the pump out boat and it shows it not, and 50k for anchors

Mike: I think it's the pilot study for the south marina.

Mike: the cameras, I would like to start doing my own pricing to get everything done.

**I. Report from working group on mooring/slip fees** - Mike/Fran/Bob - we have been working on areas, and divided our areas into north shore, south shore, and the cape. So far we are gathering information and it's all over the place, there are a lot of different ideas. It's too early for a presentation.

**J. Report from Keith after talking to Paul Scott about town pier**- No update

## **VI. New Business**

*Peter: I went to my insurance agency for my boat which is less than 25'; is covered at no charge. It gets listed on your insurance record and the town is listed, covered under an umbrella policy.*

*Brad: any rebuttal from boaters?*

*Mike: I have gotten more positive than anything. It's working great.*

*Vinnie: can we hire an intern to clean up our systems. GIS, Billing, Dockwa.com*

*Mike: Brad can we get me the paper work*

*Brad: I will call them tomorrow*

*Brad: the person that did Dockwa.com did a great presentation.*

*Dick: we are waiting on order of condition on Con. Com.*

*Brad: I would like to make a motion to adopt Dockwa program, but I would like to call around and do some homework on them. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Keith*

*Bob: we don't know anything about these people do we really know they are bonded, we need more information.*

*Brad: this is what I just said, we need more information on them but it was a great presentation and idea.*

*Howie: Let's invite them back and flush out some questions.*

*Peter: it's a marina by marina application*

*Brad: let's keep the ball rolling, I'm happy to make some phone calls*

*Dick: Mike does this make sense*

*Mike: I'd like more information and who else has it and how it does work.*

*Brad: let's invite them back and ask for a marina list*

*Fran: I'd like to see some marinas that are signed up.*

*Howie: they spoke a lot about Newport, Scituate is a different animal*

*Brad: maybe we ask them to come back in June or August*

*Dick: we need some due diligence; we want to get down to hard facts. It may not fit Scituate as a town.*

*Peter: let's table this and see what they have*

*Brad Motion to table till June 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob unanimously approved*

**VI. Adjournment** – Eckhouse – 8:30pm

Chairperson: Dick Eckhouse – 2015

Vice Chairperson: Peter Toppan – 2016

Harbormaster: Mark Patterson

**Full Members:**

David Glancy – 2016  
Bob McHugh – 2016  
Fran McMillen 2015  
Keith Walo -2015  
Brad White 2015  
Mike Gibbons -2017

**Associate Members**

John Murphy  
Don Hourihan  
Michael J. Sullivan  
Brian Cronin  
Jeffrey Frank  
Bill Schmid  
Tom Anderson  
Steve Guard

**Wanting to be considered for Associate Membership:**

John Vigilante  
Vinnie Lanoue

**Town Selectman Liaison**

Shawn Harris

**Recording Secretary:**

Lindsey DeSimone

**Next meeting:** Wednesday May 6, 2015 at 7:15 at the Scituate Maritime Center.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:00 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Lindsey DeSimone, Recording Secretary