



**MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission Meeting
Wednesday, October 4th, 2017
Scituate Maritime Center
119 Edward Foster Road
7:00 PM**

Commission Members in Attendance: Frank McMillen, Brian Cronin, Brian Kelly, Keith Waldo, Michael Gibbons, Stephen Mone, David Friedman, David Glancy, Michael LoRusso

Meeting was called to order by Fran McMillan at 7:01 PM Seconded by Brian Cronin and unanimously voted

A motion was made by Fran Mc Millan to accept the minutes from the September on 9/6/2017. Second by Brian Cronin Unanimously voted to accept the minutes. The minutes from the 9/26/2017 meeting will be reviewed and voted at the next meeting.

HARBORMASTER REPORT

Harbormaster Mone reviewed that they are still moving forward with the rehabilitation project. There were no issues with the recent Northeaster storm. One boat broke a line, and the owner was contacted.

Brian Kelly noted that the engineer that presented the project at the meeting on 9/26/2017 was very informative and Mr. Hagopian was prepared, professional and could respond to all inquiries. Mr. Kelly noted that pre-purchasing supplies is indicated for the project, and that the schedule is ambitious. Harbormaster Mone noted that a grant expires in July 1st of next year. A re-application process would be necessary if the timeline is exceeded.

Mr. Gibbons explained that it might go past the expiration, but regular operations could impact the schedule as well. The bidding process might take some time, and weather might also impact the timeline was mentioned.

Mike McDonough stated the pilings portion takes about 3 – 4 hours per piling, but the cutting will take some time. Three to four months was offered as the average. Design and prep work is time consuming and depending on the type of pilings required, ordering the stock will be critical to the process. It was suggested that perhaps half the pilings would be done and then the rest in the fall. The pilings could be preordered and then the chaining could be utilized. Floats need to be in place and then the pilings could be done after. This would all need to be done with the approval of the engineering. Keith Walo asked how the pilings could be done and Mike said in Ptown they go right thru the middle of the float. In Scituate they are proposed to be on the outside. Main floats

should be incorporated into the project since they are not in good shape. Harbormaster Mone said he could put a request into the capital plan. Fran McMillan said it should be looked at when the engineering comes back.

Jason Burtner, CZM was introduced from Coastal Management by Brian Kelly. Jason outlined that he works under the auspices of Environmental Affairs and his district covers the south shore area, he was in the Coast Guard and holds several licenses. He discussed the Harbor Management plan and thought the one he reviewed for Scituate was good, and should have ongoing review as time goes on. Most plans have a 5 year life span. He outlined the mechanism for reviewing the plan and asked the committee what they thought. Brian Kelly said the water use, management, obtaining grants and keeping it updated are critical. The plan is not presently state approved. Jason then outlined the review and approval process with EDA. Chapter 91 rules were then reviewed. A question was asked if we should review our Chapter 91 plan – Jason suggested it would be a good idea. He added that in addition to the marinas, the waterways and marshes and conservation would also be reviewed. If no Chapter 91 issues exist then a Harbor Management plan should be tailored to the community. A state approved Harbor Management Plan makes it easier to obtain grant approval and access. A consultant can be hired to do some or all of this type of planning. Scituate's Harbor Management plan is not state approved, but Jason did provide some technical assistance to the present plan.

The Seaport Economic Council group funds development Harbor Management plans. Cohasset has taken advantage of this program. Jason said that opening the process up to the community for feedback is the optional way to proceed.

Brian Kelly asked about the timing as to review of a plan within ten years. Jason said a 5 or 10 year horizon is a good timeline. He said Cohasset received \$50,000 towards their planning process.

Howie Kreutzberg said that a lot of communities do not have one, and it will be a lot of heavy lifting to create. Scituate should be pleased that one is in place. Jason mentioned that the plan allows for the use of the harbor and the competing forces that are looking for resources. Jason also mentioned that the Harbor Management Plan influences the review process by EDA. He also pointed to the websites for criteria to use. Brian Kelly asked Howie Kreutzberg how our plan stands, where numerous communities don't have a plan. Scituate's plan is dated according to Jason, and it is a local plan, as opposed to a state approved plan. Jason suggested reviewing the present one to update it to current conditions, what was accomplished, and a summary to the community as to what is still to be accomplished, and what is planned for the future. Howie stated it is not mandated to be updated.

Fran McMillen stated we would like to updated it to the present conditions, including the work on the town marina; Cole Parkway. Jason suggested to just review the portions needing updated. Brad Washburn is now the Town Planner and Brian Kelly said he should take a look since he was involved in Coastal Management.

South River Dredging – Brian Cronin spoke to Nancy Holt and the permitting should be done by the spring, but the funding is not available. No estimate as to cost is available. The dredge material is being used for beach enrichment. Brian will invite Nancy Holt to the next meeting. Fran McMillen stated that the safety of the river is become more critical. Funding is available for dredging of \$100,000 C St. Bridge and there was money for the permitting only. The cost might run in area of \$400,000 - \$500,000 for the area of need. The buoys were moved, but that did not solve the problem. It was noted that Nancy should be made aware that the buoys being relocated did not fix the issue. Harbormaster Mone did work with the Coast Guard to look at some of the buoys.

Howie Kreutzberg said the Waterways Committee should send a letter to the selectmen to escalate this issue, especially the safety problem. Also the State Rep Canfield should be copied. Fran said the letter should be composed and voted on at the next meeting. Mr. Gibbons will work on a draft to be reviewed and approved.

Harbor North Jetty update – Harbormaster Mone said the documents were signed by the Town Administrator and sent to the Federal Government, who will also be the entity paying for the work. This will take place next spring.

Towing Policy – Harbormaster Mone said that it was presented last year, and it was delayed. It was sent back to the Selectman’s office and it will be put on the agenda. He noted that in an emergency, the Harbormaster will respond and stand by for other services to arrive.

Mooring Banding results were discussed before as an audit and it is complete. Harbormaster Mone said it was done to the best of their ability. Brian Cronin asked about the rivers and some moorings are not in use. Harbormaster Mone outlined how they did the banding, using the number on the ball, the registration on the boat, and their existing lists. Keith Walo said he thought it was designed to find unregistered moorings. Harbormaster Mone said it took about four years when he did it before. Brian Cronin said they could be abandoned. Harbormaster Mone said they could just be missing numbers. If it doesn’t have a number, eventually they will be removed. Areas were identified and there are segments of numbering being utilized. There have been 500 moorings banded to date.

Mike Bearce has assigned 80 moorings to date.

WWC Financial Review/Planning – Keith Walo asked that the board request a line by line expenditure of what went in and what went out of the Waterways Enterprise Fund. Keith asked for some assistance with the audit. Keith would like to have it ready for the next meeting. This request would be for the last fiscal year. It was noted that costs have certainly gone up.

Hurricane - Storm Planning - Fran McMillen asked if the town should have a plan in a storm conditions.

Harbormaster Mone noted that in other towns there has been a system for blast emails about storm safety. He noted that insurance companies have different ways of covering pulling the boats. Keith Walo checked with several harbors and found they would tell folks at the time of the storm. In the recent storm some boats were not secured. It was suggested that Boat US and SEA Tow

have information that could be used to compile a document. Harbormaster Mone is working on this over the winter.

Marina Rehabilitation – Michael asked about any conflict with Mill Wharf Marina and Harbormaster Mone said we will be getting our permits and Keith Walo said this was outside of the committee's expertise.

Ant Hill Parking – across from Widow's Walk. Michael Lorusso said it could be improved. Harbormaster Mone said he had the DMF down and they started at Jericho Road about replacing light poles, and the asphalt is being torn up. They are looking at redoing the parking area and lights, but not the ramp itself. It will take some time due to funding. They then looked at the Conservation Park ramp and it is being used by small boats and kayaks. They said they would be interested in putting in a ramp and dock, to be used by the Harbormaster boat. It could be used by Fire and Emergency services if necessary. They also looked at the Cole Parkway ramp. The issue is that when the state takes over the care of the ramps they also required a certain number of parking spaces to be available, and trailer parking.

Howie said Conservation Park has certain conservation limits on the parking. He asked if the Webster St ramp was looked at. Fran McMillen asked about the state supporting these ramps, and Harbormaster Mone said the State already controls the Jericho Rd. ramp.

Keith Walo said the last pump out day is October 10th.

Keith Walo asked why the Maritime Center is not open in winter. The power went out one winter and it was decided not to open it, since the pipes froze.

Harbormaster Mone said the fingers will be put in Cole Parkway and then the de-icers will be put in for the winter for the floats. There is insurance coverage for the floats.

Officer McAuley – there has been training with the Maritime Unit for scuba, pursuit, and boarding training.

There was a motion to adjourn by Fran McMillen and seconded by Brian Kelly.

Adjourned at 8:40 p.m