



MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission Meeting
Thursday, April 12, 2018
Maritime Center
Edward Foster Road

Commission Members in Attendance: Fran McMillen (Chairperson), Brian Cronin (Vice Chairperson), Michael Gibbons, Brian Kelly, David Friedman, Stephen Mone (Harbormaster), Michael Lorusso

Commission Members not in Attendance: David Glancy; Steve Guard; Keith Walo

The meeting was called to order by Fran McMillen at 7:02 PM

Fran McMillen made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Brian Kelly; Unanimous Vote (7-0).

Fran McMillen made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2018 meeting; seconded by David Friedman; Unanimous Vote (7-0).

Fran McMillen made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 27, 2018 meeting; seconded by David Friedman; Unanimous Vote (7-0).

OPENING REMARKS: Fran McMillen

This year, the first Wednesday of the month in July is a holiday (4th of July). It was suggested that the Commission skip July this year instead of August. David Friedman thought they should not skip a meeting unless there is nothing on the Agenda to discuss. The Commission decided to have the meeting on July 11 and plan to skip the August meeting unless matters arise.

Brian Cronin made a motion to vote to schedule the July Waterways Commission Meeting on Wednesday, July 11, 2018 and skip the August Waterways Commission Meeting unless there are topics to discuss, Brian Kelly seconded the motion; Unanimous vote (7-0)

HARBORMASTER REPORT: Stephen Mone

- There is work to do on the water lines
- Cole Parkway and Maritime fingers went in this week
- Damage to the pump-out station and permanent plumbing lines under the dock , will need to be replaced
- Pedestals survived the storms

- The de-icers are stored away for the summer, the de-icer shed was crushed in the storm, but the de-icers are fine

Brian Cronin asked about the South side of the pier being repaired, and Stephen said he is not putting those floats back in until the Cole Parkway project is finished. Even though a boat hit the dock, the Town would probably have to pay because we cannot prove how the damage was caused. Stephen said the cost is \$45,000 to bring the pilings in, so it makes sense to wait. People can temporarily tie up on the other side of the dock [North side dock]

Brian Cronin suggested monitoring the North Side Dock. Stephen said they will keep the lobster boats off because they are big

Mike Gibbons asked about fixing the electrical issues at Maritime center, Stephen said an electrician is going to come in to look at it.

David Friedman asked if all the bills were out, Stephen said they have been out for 45 days and people have 2 more days to pay, Monday, April 16, is the last day. People got reminders throughout the process, which the Commission thought worked well.

David Friedman asked about how many moorings would be emptied this year, Stephen said they can still pay a late fee up to 30 days after April 16th, so he doesn't know yet, but last year we were pretty close to full. David wanted to know what the revenue was made up of, Michael LaRusso said they are based on footage so you would have to take that into consideration when you estimated the revenue. Stephen said we currently have approximately 600 moorings in the harbor and rivers. However, this number could change because your mooring has to be up for the whole season now (cannot be down for more than 10 days) or it will be reassigned.

Brian Kelly added that the financial report from Nancy Holt reflected that 41% of the mooring fees were paid to date.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Shellfish Presentation Review/Recommendations**

Fran said there is a lot of interest from the Commission to allow Shellfish Farming in Scituate. Stephen said he would like a plan before we give out plots and we need to have guidelines in place to ensure they are actually growing shellfish. David Friedman asked what it would take to plan. Stephen said he was looking for money to hire a consultant, similar to what they did in Falmouth. Falmouth licensed the areas themselves and they allow for 2 years in one area and then another 2 years in a different area, then the area becomes recreational. We have to think it through and not make the mistakes that the other towns have made. Duxbury has grandfathered areas because people have owned licenses for so long and the lease is owned by the operator, not the Town.

Brian Cronin spoke about the speaker that came to a past Waterways meeting (Stephen Mone was on vacation and did not hear him speak). Brian Cronin explained that he was looking at North Scituate in Cohasset Harbor, which is an approved area. Stephen restated that Scituate Harbor proper is prohibited and the rivers are conditionally approved depending on season. Brian Cronin wanted to know if we could put a license together for the area in Cohasset Harbor, Stephen said yes, but he would like to have a consultant come in first. Fran McMillen asked if we could model it after another Town instead of paying for a consultant. Michael LaRusso

cautioned not to rush into it because there might be other competent people out there. Brian Cronin wanted to know what the timeframe was, Stephen said he would like to be the shellfish constable, Mike DiMeo is the shellfish constable now, and he has been against it. There is no commercial shell fishing allowed in Scituate. Brian Cronin thinks there should be more urgency around putting regulations around this process and that the Commission should send a letter to the Board of Selectmen and the Shellfish Constable. Stephen said to send it to the Selectmen first. Fran recommended that the Commission write a letter backing Stephen and asking them to pursue shellfish growing in Scituate.

Howie Kreutzberg suggested doing some more research so the letter would be specific in what the commission was asking for. He also said that we might want to involve Economic Development and said that maybe they could pay for the consultant; it may be economic value to the town.

David Friedman thought that the Commission should do some research.

Stephen Mone said that it may only be prohibited because the old shellfish constable was part-time and there is a lot of work that goes with the process like posting the areas that are closed for shell fishing.

Stephen said that he had talked to the Board of Selectmen about shellfish farming at one of the past meetings.

Brian Cronin thought we should draft a letter with clear goals including a comprehensive shellfish plan and ask what the next steps in the process would be and who would be responsible.

Brian Kelly and Mike Gibbons offered to draft a letter to the Board of which will be reviewed at the next meeting. Fran said he would help with the research.

- **Financial Report – David Friedman, Keith Walo, Brian Kelly**
 - Global expenses
 - Debt service

The Commission will review in detail for the next meeting. Fran McMillen said it is a good summary of the Waterways Enterprise Fund.

There was a general discussion of the budget including overall expenses and revenue.

There was a discussion of the budget and upcoming expenses and revenue. In 2023, the debt service will go back up. **Brian Kelly wanted to know the annual dollar amount of debt service for each year from 2020 through 2024.**

Mike Gibbons said the revenue projected was \$1,126,600 for FY18 which is a decline from FY17 but up from previous years. Stephen said in past years people were paying fees late and the money was going into other years.

David Friedman asked for a breakdown of the leasing line item.

Stephen brought up the fact that they need to raise the price for ice. The price should be a percentage or a certain dollar amount about the wholesale price of the ice. Currently, the Board of Selectmen has to increase the price of ice. The Town is practically losing money selling ice. He would like to keep the selling price of the ice at an even number. Brian Cronin said what about a self-dispensing ice machine. Stephen said he needs a motion from the Commission. We are only making 23 cents a bag.

Brian Cronin asked what the goal was now that the Commission has the financials. **Mike Gibbons thinks everyone should review the financials and funnel their questions through Fran. Fran would like the review done and questions sent to him by Wednesday, April 25 so he has time to go to Nancy before the next meeting**

- **Cole Parkway Marina Rehab/Progress Report – Stephen Mone**

Stephen said the project is going well and they are just waiting for DEP (Chapter 91) permit for the pilings; all the other permits are in place. He further added that everything has been submitted to the DEP.

Michael Lorusso said the DEP controls the timeline.

Stephen explained that there were a few unexpected issues with the project: ADA and the condition of the electrical system. We planned to use the old ramp. We are currently in the process of drafting a letter to Seaport. We need them to extend the contract out until next year and we are asking for 80% of the additional fees. The original cost was \$700,700 and now we are at \$972,000, which is approximately an additional \$300,000. The Town misjudged the amount. The amendment will go to Seaport tomorrow. We should be on their agenda for the August meeting. The cost of removing the mooring stones was another additional expense. Everything was in the plan, but the original estimates were off. Stephen plans on going back to Seaport to ask for pilings and electrical upgrades at the Maritime Center. Stephen will take money from the Enterprise Fund and will pay it back if he gets a grant from Seaport.

Stephen said that ideally, the project would start on October 16, 2018.

Mike Gibbons said that there was a section on the Capital Plan in the budget, that showed the cost per year. Stephen said it is not part of this project it is a placeholder. He would have to go back to Seaport. He has to put the full amount in budget even though we only pay about 20%. . Mike Gibbons asked if the Town could potentially get money for a dock, Stephen thinks we can get money for hard projects like fixing our docks.

- **South River Dredging Update - Stephen Mone**

Stephen said we have submitted the permits to all the agencies. We have gotten positive feedback so far. We should be able to do area A in the fall, with off shore disposal. This is being paid for by debt that is accounted for. Town meeting approved it, but the money has not been spent yet. Brian Cronin asked if Stephen has taken a boat to the South River and Stephen said not yet. David Friedman asked if the South River project would go out to bid and Stephen said yes. Mike Gibbons stated that it is great that the project will be started and that the Commission started talking about this dredge project back in 2012.

Brian Cronin asked if they ever finished the C Street project, which was a project that was done using hydraulics and was half Marshfield, half Scituate. Stephen said it is low on his priority

list right now. Stephen said you can only get there at high tide and he would not have started with that area. Fran McMillen said they brought the wrong type of equipment and were not able to dredge that much.

NEW BUSINESS

Contract and Regulations Differences

Brian Kelly would like to add the discrepancies between the slip contract information and the rules and regulations to the agenda for the next meeting. Brian will send it to Fran for the next meeting.

Discrepancies noted:

- **Difference in ownership**
Brian Cronin said there is a tighter control over a mooring holder because it is State and Federal regulated.
- **Late payment**
Invoices go out March 1st and are due April 15 Stephen said.
- **Slip vacancy**

There being no more business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Brian Cronin at 8:37 PM; seconded by Jerry Kelly; Unanimous vote (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Lianne Cataldo
Recording Secretary

List of Documents:

- Agenda
- Meeting Minutes from 3/7/18, 3/27/18
- Financial Documents

Follow Up:

- *Set up meeting for July 11th*
- *Draft letter to Board of Selectmen regarding Shell fishing- Mike Gibbons and Brian Kelly*
- *Contract and Regulations Differences- Brian Kelly*
- *Review Financials and send questions to Fran by April 25th*
- *Brian Kelly wanted to know the annual dollar amount of debt service for each year from 2020 through 2024.*
- *David Friedman asked for a breakdown of the leasing line item*