



MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission Meeting
Wednesday, May 2, 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; Keith Walo

Commission Members not in Attendance: David Glancy; Steve Guard

Also in Attendance: Shawn Harris

The meeting was called to order by Fran McMillen at 6:59 PM.

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

Fran McMillen made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 12 with corrections meeting; seconded by David Friedman; Unanimous Vote (7-0).

Brian Kelly entered the meeting at 7:03 PM

HARBORMASTER REPORT: Stephen Mone

- Water turned on at Maritime Center
- Septic fixed at Cole Parkway
- Electricity at Cole Parkway should be fixed in the next few days
- Electrician going to Maritime Center this week
- Deck boards will be put back in place
- All 3 boats are in the water and operational
- Workboat is still in the water
- To date, 7 slip patrons and about 50 mooring patrons have not paid
- The 50 letters are going out tomorrow or the next day to remind people to provide paperwork and that late fees and mooring fees are due by the 15th. The letters will also explain the surrendering of moorings policy if fees and paperwork are not provided.
- People were given a 1 year extension if they needed/wanted to purchase a boat
- Ellen scans all the documents that are received in the harbormaster office
- Moorings will be given out once the marina opens

Brian Cronin wanted to know how many moorings were going to be handed out; Stephen said Michael was handling that task.

Brian Cronin wants to have Coast Guard come in and paint the Channel Markers. David Friedman said it was a big project to paint. He also said some of the channel markers have moved specifically #9 going into the South River.

Mike Gibbons asked how the permit process was going, Stephen said he called the engineer and there is no update from DEP yet.

Brian Cronin asked about the North Jetty being done over in the fall, and Stephen said the contract was awarded. They will rebuild the existing jetty (repair the structure) but they are not improving it.

Keith Walo asked about the pilings he said the SHYC was doing there pilings as well and suggested to Stephen that we work together to save money

Mike Gibbons asked about the bid process and Stephen said we have to wait for the DEP, he also said that he sent in the request for the additional funding.

Keith Walo asked about the South side of town pier and Stephen said it is too much money to fix right now and insurance does not cover it. It would be done when the project is done and we will replace them with steel. The rowboats that use it will be directed to use the other side of the pier.

OLD BUSINESS

Discrepancies in the Marina Contract – Brian Kelly

Existing contract discrepancies noted:

- **Difference in ownership:** Need to add verbiage
- **Slip vacancy:** patrons need to notify the harbormaster's office when their boat is going to come in late, be pulled early or go on vacation. There needs to be additional wording in the contract. Currently, there is no penalty Stephen said. Brian Cronin asked how would we penalize them, Stephen thought a set fee per night. They can notify the office by email, call on the radio or call the harbormaster office. We are losing an opportunity for revenue because we do not know when the person is coming back so we cannot rent out the slip. There was some discussion on the exact wording that would be added. Michael Lorusso thought the penalty should only be enforced if the boat is gone for an extended period of time or suggested providing a one day grace period. Stephen said the Commission could rewrite for the next meeting since it was going into effect 2019. **Brian will rewrite a draft for next meeting.**

Phyllis Karlberg (Hewes Road) asked how this would affect the other boat clubs, Stephen said it would not affect them at all it is only related to Town slips.

Howie Kreutzberg (Edward Foster Road) wanted to use a positive approach and suggested writing a PR announcement explaining that we are trying to keep costs down, per the contract and therefore we are asking people to let us know if you are leaving for 24 hours or more.

The Commission thought that a reminder email could be sent out for this year through Constant Contact.

Stephen said that Constant Contact would be used for communication throughout the year.

Keith Walo reminded the Commission that some people pay for a dingy spot. Brian Cronin thought we could find another spot in the Marina to move them temporarily.

Fran McMillen made a motion to detain the ownership item for discussion; Brian Cronin seconded the motion. David Friedman suggested making the item number 2 on the contract. Keith Walo wanted to know how many people would be affected, specifically boats with multiple owners. Stephen didn't think the change would affect too many people.

A motion to make changes in the language regarding ownership was made by Fran McMillen and seconded by David Friedman (7 in favor) Stephen Mone abstained.

- **Late payment:** Brian Kelly said that the late payment fees on moorings worked. Brian Cronin thought that we should add dates when payments are due and when you would lose your slip. Fran McMillen said the industry norm is that fees are due in February. The Commission discussed backing up the payment dates a month **Brian Cronin wanted Stephen to ask Ellen what she thinks would work best.** Michael Lorusso thought that bills should not go out around the holidays.

Shell fishing – Brian Kelly & Mike Gibbons

Brian and Mike researched information on shellfish farming for the letter of support that will be written to the Board of Selectmen.

The research brought up the following questions:

- Are we looking for a Commission to be formed or will Waterways advise. Do we think Waterways can handle or do we recommend a Commission.
 - Wellfleet had a lot of information on their website licensing, icing, rates, school programs, commercial growers, grants
- 6 locations in Scituate, MB10 is the one we are interested in, some of the other ones are off shore.
- Research surrounding towns
- Financial benefits
- Environmental benefits

David Friedman asked about the consultant. Stephen said that the consultant would make a plan including zoning bylaws, what areas would work and apply for 1 or 2 licenses for a charge of approximately \$45,000. Mike said if we have an approved area, do we need a consultant. Stephen said he could provide the scope of what the consultant could do.

Brian Kelly said the Town can only charge \$25 an acre but the environmental benefits would be good for Scituate.

Mike Gibbons said in Wellfleet they issue the permits annually. Stephen said they move them around every 2 years.

Stephen said it is not easy to maintain a farm, that it is a lot of work and a financial investment.

Janet Fairbanks (Neal Gate Street) said the Conservation Commission has held hearing on Shell fishing on the area in the river and MB10 in Cohasset harbor.

A Sanitary Survey, which is in the process, has to be done before a shellfish farm could be considered in Scituate Harbor. One was done back in the 1980's and there were a lot of issues going on with sewers and drainage, so it could come back conditionally approved this time.

Keith Walo asked Shawn Harris what the Board of Selectmen thought. Shawn said he thought some of them were behind it. He also said he was not sure if Scituate had enough acreage compared to other towns.

Howie Kreutzberg asked about UMass and if we could ask them to come to a meeting. **Brian Kelly said he could follow up with the professor.**

Stephen said one of his goals is growing cohogs and oysters with high school students involved as part of a science project. We are turning the pier sideways at Cole parkway and Stephen thought this would be a good area.

Waterways Enterprise Fund Financials

Fran asked for questions by the 25th but Nancy was on vacation so she will not get to the questions until next week.

Cole Parkway Marina Rehab/Progress Report – Stephen Mone

- Project on track for October 16th

South River Dredging Update - Stephen Mone

- Permits are in
- Town has money set aside
- Marshfield did not put item on their Warrant for Town Meeting, their harbormaster is applying for grants. We had previously come up with a plan for area that we would work on together. At this point, we do not know if Marshfield is planning to contribute money.
- Oct – Feb can be dredged

Keith Walo said that he thought Scituate Harbor may need dredging from the last storms, he felt there were areas we are going to have issues with and that people are going to get stuck. Michael Lorusso said that the highs are higher and the lows are lower.

NEW BUSINESS

Brian Kelly asked Shawn Harris if increases in the price of ice have to go through the Board of Selectmen. Shawn said if Commission recommends it, they could increase the price.

Keith said should we ask the other boating clubs what they charge. It was discussed that \$2.50 a bag is what the boat club charges. Stephen said it costs \$1.93 and we have to pay for electricity and losses.

Michael Lorusso made a motion that we leave the price of ice solely in the discretion of the Harbormaster; seconded by Brian Cronin. Discussion: Keith Walo suggested finding out what the other boat clubs are charging (7 in favor) Stephen Mone abstained.

Janet Fairbanks informed the Commission that a mouse ran through the Maritime Center during the meeting.

Mooring Inspections – Stephen Mone

Inspections are due every 3 years and are supposed to be done by the due date, if they are not done, Stephen wanted to implement a fine. Stephen said he wants the mooring inspectors to get back up to speed first and then if we do not have inspections by the due date there will first be a warning then a fine will be mailed out. Stephen would also do spot checks on the equipment with divers. Stephen said, we would not license them the next year if there is a problem getting inspections. Keith Walo asked why the Town was sending a warning first, this has been the rule and suggested just sending out a fine. Stephen agreed and said he would let the inspectors know that this is going to happen going forward.

Michael Lorusso said in Falmouth they have the date at the end of August and if you cannot make the date, you have to hire the inspector to address the harbormaster for an extension. If the inspector finds a discrepancy late in the season, they may not have time to fix it in time.

Next Meeting June 6th

Mike asked about the Appointments being done in May and Fran McMillen confirmed and said the letters already went out.

Shawn Harris said they had a meeting with the air force regarding the area at the end of 4th cliff. He said they meet with everyone from colonels to engineers who were mostly from Hanscom. The Chief and Nancy Durfee were there as well. The air force said that we know the area is a problem but we do not have the money to fix the jersey barriers. A lot of material is going into the north and south rivers Nancy said. They disagreed, but knew something needed to be done, but the area is not that important to the government. They said they would work with the State or the Town and that the cost would be about \$16M to fix,. Brian Cronin said it is a shame to see it eroding away, and Shawn agreed and added that 8 feet just fell off. It is very dangerous and it is a safety concern. Stephen said they talked about DCR taking over the beach area and getting some state funding, but then it would become DCR property.

Brian Cronin asked if DCR would they provide parking if it is a DCR beach

Janet Fairbanks said the Scituate archives said that the property was being used for the armed services and that it would be given back to the Town when they were done with it.

Brian Cronin asked Shawn if conservation could pick up the debris on the beach from the erosion. Shawn said you would need a crane.

There being no more business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Brian Cronin at 8:33 PM; seconded by David Friedman; Unanimous vote (8-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Lianne Cataldo
Recording Secretary

List of Documents:

- Agenda
- Meeting Minutes from 4/12
- Research on Shellfish Farming
- Discrepancies in contract

Follow Up:

- *Keith Walo asked about the pilings he said the SHYC was doing there pilings as well and suggested to Stephen that we work together to save money*
- *Draft letter to Board of Selectmen regarding Shell fishing- Mike Gibbons and Brian Kelly*
 - *Stephen will send out the Consultant proposal*
 - *Brian Kelly said he could ask the UMass professor to attend a meeting*
- *Re-write language for Contract and Regulations - Brian Kelly*
 - *Late Fees: Stephen to ask Ellen what she thinks would work best.*
- *Review WWC Financials questions and answers*
- *Research what the other boat clubs are charging for ice*