

**TOWN OF SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS
WATERWAYS COMMISSION**



**MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission
Wednesday, September 7, 2022
7:00 pm
Scituate Maritime Center
119 Edward Foster Rd
Scituate, MA 02066**

Commission Members Present: Mike Gibbons, Chairperson; Rick Murray Vice Chairman; Stephen Mone Scituate, Harbormaster; Brian Kelly, Member; Howie Kreutzberg, Member; Dave Haley, Member; Brian Cronin, Member; Dave Dinneen, Member; T.J. Malvesti, Associate Member; Kevin Norton, Associate Member

Also in Attendance: Brendan McAuley of Scituate Police Department, Fran McMillen, EDC Liaison

Members Not in Attendance: Dave Sincoski, Member, Steve Guard, Associate Member

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to call the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m., which was made by Member; Howie Kreutzberg, seconded by Brian Kelly, and voted unanimously in favor (8-0).

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to accept the meeting agenda, which was made by Rick Murray, seconded by Howie Kreutzberg, and voted unanimously in favor (8-0).

Chairperson Gibbons made a motion to accept the minutes from the July 6, 2022 meeting, which was made by Dave Dinneen, seconded by Brian Cronin, and voted unanimously in favor (8-0).

Harbormaster Report

A. Cole Parkway Dock Replacement Project Update

- a. Town Meeting Warrant Article Fall Special Town Meeting 9-19**
Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2022.

- b. RFP Response Timeline**

Harbormaster Mone reported that 20 plans were requested in the RFP and the pre-bid meeting had 7 attendees. He stated that the bids have been extended

to September 15, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. Several members expressed concern with the timing of the project, particularly whether or not the project can be completed by May 2023. The board hopes A Notice to Proceed will be granted on October 16, 2022.

B. Dredge Projects Update

a. Grant Update

Harbormaster Mone relayed that Marshfield and Scituate reapplied for river dredging through the Seaport Economic Council granting process. This would entail 25% each from Marshfield and Scituate and 50% from SEC. Mr. Mone reported that he also applied for another Seaport Economic Council grant for design and permitting for several areas around the harbor. These areas included are the Maritime Center Marina, the Lobster Association Dock, Cole Parkway, a small area in front of the Mill Wharf and the commercial wharf. He stated that the total cost for the grant applied for is \$375,000. Harbormaster Mone also shared that this grant is an 80/20 split or 80% from the Seaport Council and 20% from the town. He also mentioned that this is a two-year process before the actual dredging could begin.

Member, Dave Dinneen questioned why over 20 pilings do not have caps. According to Harbormaster Mone, they were blown off during the October 2021 storm. He indicated that they have the caps and will have them replaced with the dock replacement project.

New Business

A. Mooring Field Issues- Keith Walo of Harbor Mooring

Mr. Keith Walo of Harbor Mooring Company stated that he is concerned that another mooring business is diving on his customer's gear. Mr. Walo explained his process managing his customer's mooring gear. He handed out several pictures of his examples and several emails emphasizing his point. Mr. Walo reported that he and the mooring operator in question had a discussion, but nothing was resolved. Most in attendance agreed, including Brad White 149 Old Main Street Marshfield, that companies should not be touching gear unless approved by the mooring owner, but marketing is acceptable. Chair Gibbons summarized that companies should not be touching gear unless approved by the mooring owner. Harbormaster Mone Moan indicated that each operator (there are 5 approved operators) provides insurance and liability protection to the town. It was also said that this is a competitive business, with 5 operators trying to work between 500-600 mooring in the harbor. Mike McDonough, of 53 Main Street, Norwell, another operator who explained his history around the Harbor. Mr. Walo's concern deals with Mr. McDonough's business which he denied. Mr. Walo then mentioned a second issue he has; if changing mooring companies should this be communicated with the Harbormaster's office? Harbormaster Mone will discuss this with his staff and will follow up at the next Waterways meeting.

*Dave Haley left the meeting 8:00 PM. Prior engagement.

B. Maritime Center Parking Lot

Scituate DPW Director, Cafferty, wants to fill the potholes as needed. Location is the entrance to the parking lot. Brian Kelly does not agree with this direction. Howie Kreutzberg has discussed this issue with Frank Snow, Chair of Conservation, Kevin Cafferty DPW Director, and Maura Curran, Selectboard and Waterways Liaison. Ms. Curran will take a look at the issue, and Brian Kelly and Howie Kreutzberg will continue to work on the issue.

C. Abuse of Town Marina Staff – Rules and Regulations

Harbormaster Mone expressed his concern with the lack of respect and unprecedented harassment of town marina staff. He cited several examples of users arguing, not listening and being disruptive to staff. Harbormaster Mone recommended a policy should be created and/or added to existing slip contracts; maybe create a “Code of Conduct” with town council.

STATEMENT FROM THE SCITUATE WATERWAYS COMMISSION -

Scituate Waterways Commission supports Harbormaster Steven Mone working with Town Council to create verbiage for use with both boat slips and moorings located in Scituate Harbor. The sense of the board is support.

D. Annual Waterways Commission Chair Vote

The reorganization of the board commenced.

Chairperson Gibbons asked for a motion to be made to nominate Rick Murray as Chairperson of the Scituate Waterways Commission, which was made by Howie Kreutzberg, seconded by Mike Gibbons, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0-1).

New Chairperson, Rick Murray, thanked the Commission for their support and thanked now former Chairperson, Mike Gibbons, for his dedication and leadership as Chairperson.

Chairperson Rick Murray asked for a motion to be made to nominate Dave Dinneen as Vice Chairperson of the Scituate Waterways Commission, which was made by Brian Cronin, seconded by Rick Murray, and voted unanimously in favor (6-0-1).

Old Business

A. Financial Update

Brian Kelly reported that finances are still tracking same as last month. He shared that Article 5 at Special Town Meeting is not a commitment, it gives us the ability to complete the project. Mr. Kelly stated that financially, we can support it. Going on to say that \$339,000 debt service is good, \$353,000 audited retained earning the \$1,275M is an additional “Safety Net” due to the higher costs than originally thought. Chairman Gibbons mentioned that this Article is coming out of the Waterways Enterprise account and will not be a tax burden on the Residents of the town.

B. Shellfish Closure Update

David Freidman has completed his term on the Commission, and the board thanked him for his service. The board now needs a commission liaison.

Brad White, of 149 Old Main Street Marshfield, MA mentioned that Senator O'Connor is aware of the shellfish closure issue and might be able to help. There is a strong possibility that the Clams flats could open on November 1st.

C. SHARC Update

Craig Rosenquist has completed his term on the Commission, and the board thanked him for his service. Howie Kreutzberg will volunteer in this role for the Commission. There was nothing new to report on SHARC.

D. Harbor Wi-Fi

It was said that there was one bid associated with the Harbor Wi-Fi RFP. The proposal is currently being reviewed by Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau. Mr. Boudreau is researching something in the RFP. Harbormaster Mone was tasked with providing additional information in October 2022.

E. Maritime Center Scheduling

Selectboard Member and Waterways Liaison, Maura Curran, will work with the Town Administrator on adjusting the hours for the Maritime Center.

Harbormaster Mone reported that he received the quote for the paddle racks. He will request a W-9 and set up a purchase order.

Participants Q&A

Brad White, of North Marshfield, stated that he is concerned about the current floating dock at Jericho boat launch. He said that because of the pilings being located on the outside of the floats, it makes it challenging to have several boats tying up at the float. He has a simple recommendation. According to Harbormaster Mone, this a State Fishing and Boating Access question. Currently, the state has a grant project in progress at Jericho. Mr. Mone provided Mr. White the contact to the state official in charge of the current project. Mr. White will begin a Kickstart Program to help update this 25-year-old dock with a \$5,000 donation.

Scituate Resident, Erin Drakeley, of 150 First Parish Road, asked who is the best town department in Scituate to remove debris from Satuit Brook that had stopped the flow of water. The Commission provided guidance.

Scituate Resident, Susan Hahu, of 33 Trunnel Lane, asked if the dock lockers will remain with the Marina update. It was said that dock lockers will not be allowed after the completion of the project.

Scituate Resident, Paul Manning, of 64 Moorland Road, was curious about camping out hoping for a slip. Harbormaster Mone indicated that the signups are now completed on line. When the sign up opened, 174 people signed up to try and get a slip for the upcoming 2023 boating season.

Scituate Resident, Sandra Tedeschi, of 21 Gilson Road, asked if boats will be moved from current locations due to the new configuration of the floats. It was stated that not all of the boats will be moved. Also mentioning that any single slips will be located on the outside of the marine floats.

Brian Cronin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m., which was seconded by Brian Kelly, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0).