

**TOWN OF SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS
WATERWAYS COMMISSION**



**MEETING MINUTES
Waterways Commission
Wednesday, November 1, 2023
6 PM
Scituate Public Library Community Room/Zoom/Hybrid
85 Branch Street**

Commission Members Present: Chair; Dave Dinneen, Scituate Harbormaster; Stephen Mone, Howie Kreuzberg, Brian Cronin, Mike Gibbons, Dave Sincoski, Dave Haley, Associate Member; Kevin Norton, Associate Member; T.J. Malvesti, Associate Member; Steven Guard

Also in Attendance: Recording Secretary; Alicia Anthony, Selectboard Liaison Susan Harrison, Scituate Police Officer Brendan McAuley, Town Administrator; Jim Boudreau, EDC Liaison; Fran McMillen

Members Not in Attendance: Rick Murray, Brian Kelly

Chair Dinneen called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

Chair Dinneen read the Statement of commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to accept the meeting agenda, which was made by Mike Gibbons, seconded by Brian Cronin, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0).

Roll Call Vote:

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Dave Dinneen (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

Mike Gibbons (yes)

Brian Cronin (yes)

Dave Haley (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to accept the Minutes from October 4, 2023, which was made by Brian Cronin, seconded by Dave Sincoski, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Dave Dinneen (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)
Mike Gibbons (yes)
Brian Cronin (yes)
Dave Haley (yes)
Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

Correspondence

There was no correspondence to discuss.

Chairman's Report

Chair Dinneen thanked Mr. Kelly for taking the minutes last month. He also brought up the success of the ribbon cutting event and thanked all for their efforts.

Harbormaster Report

a. Special Town Meeting- Results

Harbormaster Mone shared that the project was approved.

Harbormaster Mone also shared that his department will be deploying the de-icers this month, winterizing the marina, breaking down fingers, and removing floats for the off season. He then stated that he also felt the ribbon cutting was successful.

Old Business

a. Maritime Center Parking Lot—Status and Update

Town Administrator, Jim Boudreau, shared with the board that he is working to make a permanent fix on the Maritime Center Parking Lot, which is planned to be done before the start of boating season. He noted that if the price is over six figures, temporary repairs will be done with a more permanent solution after Town Meeting budgets are complete.

b. Harbor Wi-Fi –Status and Update

TA, Boudreau, recapped that the Wi-Fi bid that went out last year, had one bid. Going on to say that Scituate IT worked with bidder a contract was set. After not hearing back from the vendor for quite some time, Scituate IT heard back last week and were told that the vendor isn't pleased with the terms on the lease. TA, Boudreau, shared that the vendor has until the end of the week to notify Scituate of what the issues are. If an agreement isn't made, this will go back out to bid for the spring. He also mentioned that the bidder has the majority of the harbor's Wi-Fi currently and that Verizon and AT&T have potential for consideration. Chair Dinneen shared that he spoke with a company by the name of Landtell as well.

c. Comprehensive Dredging Permit

Harbormaster Mone stated that over the last couple of days Wood Hole Group WHG been looking at the different areas in harbor. And sample analysis plan for the Army Corps will be done to see what they'd like Scituate to do next. Chair Dinneen asked if Wood Hole Group WHG could attend the Waterways meeting at the beginning of the year with updates for the commission.

d. Dock boxes – Brian Cronin – Attachment

Chair Dinneen shared copies of the amended dock box rules. Mr. Cronin spoke of the two changes. He shared that one of the questions of discussion was the size, and the

other was the estimate of how many boxes. Mr. Cronin said after receiving feedback from the box, it was determined that 25 – 30 dock boxes could be possible

There was discussion regarding the height listed in comparison to a standard size box. Mr. Gibbons also suggested adding “with Harbormaster’s approved fasteners that don’t damage the decking or dock” to wording. The board also agreed to a \$100 fee for the dock boxes.

Mr. Cronin made a motion to submit the document, with changes agreed to above, to the Selectboard, which was seconded by Mike Gibbons, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Dave Dinneen (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

Mike Gibbons (yes)

Brian Cronin (yes)

Dave Haley (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)

f. Harbormaster Building Renovation/Replacement, Feasibility, Schematic Design Engineering and Permitting Grant Application

Harbormaster Mone shared that he has put in the cost estimate for original plan and is checking with the architects and engineers regarding the feasibility study. He went on to say that if this wouldn’t be possible, the plan was to look at plans to do the full Harbormaster repair. It has been decided since to go that route he added. The grant application was for about \$160,000 and the department is looking for about \$30,000 for the town’s match. The project was approved at Town Meeting. Next, Harbormaster Mone shared that he asked Town Accountant; Nancy Holt, if it would be possible to change the amount, which she informed him would create a problem. Harbormaster Mone said that the plan now is to return the amount at the next Town Meeting to the Enterprise Fund with hopes to get funding for the other portion.

g. South River Dredge Permit

Harbormaster Mone shared that he and Marshfield Harbormaster Dimeo have put in for another grant for the South River dredge project. He informed the commission that funding of \$43,500 is in place for Scituate and that Marshfield also put in for a separate grant for their portion.

Liaison Reports

a. SHARC (Pier 44) - Howie Kreutzberg

The plan was shared on screen and Mr. Kreutzberg reported that it is dynamic. The new plan includes a boardwalk along the water edge, more appropriate restrooms, parking spaces for 13 vehicles (baseline), places for bikes, and area for sun coverage. This was modified from the original plans as this seems more fitting. The engineering company is working and this was approved by CPC to get ready to go out to bid when permits are put together.

Chair Dinneen asked if the dock system there was finalized. Mr. Kreutzberg replied that they weren’t as of yet as this has work with the break line and modifications for appropriate permitting.

b. Economic Development Commission – Howie Kreutzberg

Mr. Kreutzberg stated that there wasn't much to report. He stated that the commission has been very helpful, especially in updating some wording in Dockwa to make it more inviting to transients.

c. Cole Parkway Redevelopment Committee – Mike Gibbons

Mr. Gibbons provided an update, saying that the bids are back for the engineering portion of the project. He shared that the bids were mostly between \$390,000 and \$450,000 for the engineering portion. It came down to two vendors to be interviewed, with Cons Woodshole Engineering Firm being selected and approved at last week's Selectboard meeting. They bid at just under the \$400,000 mark. The firm will now move forward with the engineering plans that will take time.

d. Shellfish Advisory Committee

Selectboard Liaison Harrison shared that recreational shellfish is now open in one section only. Chair Dinned asked if there is anything else the commission should know. Ms. Harrison reported that the growing is going very well. She also shared that there has been a significant interest in growing seaweed. This needs 10 feet at low tide of water but that different strands that are new don't require as much. She also shared that Harbormaster Dimeo is looking in to municipal propagation to try this out. It was said that seaweed is the opposite season of shellfish so having both would make the area completely boat free.

Ms. Harrison then shared that Brad White and Dave Dauphnee as well as Scituate High School students are receiving awards this weekend.

New Business

Financial Update – Brian Kelly

Mr. Kelly was not in attendance but the board discussed digging in to finances in more depth at the next meeting.

Police Department Update – Brendan McAuley

Officer McAuley shared that the department took delivery of the new boat. They are down to one that will be kept in the River. The sold boat was delivered to Quincy and the money was put towards the new boat. Officer McAuley stated that the department is hoping to have the new boat in the water within a couple of weeks and will begin to train personnel with the outlined plan. He also stated that the smaller boat will stay in the river for the foreseeable future. Officer McAuley also said that the department will be ready for duck season while working with the Environmental Police. He also shared that the new boat will be kept in the water year-round.

Remaining Waterways Schedule for 2023

Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 6:00 pm Scituate Library Community Room - Hybrid

Participants Q&A

Brad White, of the Town of Marshfield, shared that he has always enjoyed the free weather station that is broadcasted out of the end of Edward Foster Road. Going on to say that he has always used it frequently to get updates along the coast, but it has since been taken over by a new company that is charging a \$999 subscription. Mr. White asked why we are allowing this. Fran McMillen chimed in to say that is an excellent system at a higher level. Other residents and boaters added that there is a way to click out of the payment option when it pops up.

Member, Dave Sincoski, shared that since the kayak rack was such a success and that the plan was to start small and expand around town down the road, that maybe at the next meeting there could be an agenda line added to discuss how to execute next season if expanding is going to happen.

Associate Member; TJ Malvesti stated that when there is a swell on Scituate Harbor, its guaranteed to see loose cans on the water, and is wondering if there is a chance of getting solar lights out there.

Harbormaster Mone replied that he is scheduled to meet with the Coast Guard and Town Administrator; Jim Boudreau next week and will bring this up. Harbormaster Mone also said that this would be a change instated by the coast guard that would need their approval.

Chair Dinneen will look in to if this is on town property.

Chair Dinneen asked for a motion to be made to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM, which was made by Dave Sincoski, seconded by Brian Cronin, and voted unanimously in favor (7-0) by roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Harbormaster Mone (yes)

Dave Dinneen (yes)

Dave Sincoski (yes)

Mike Gibbons (yes)

Brian Cronin (yes)

Dave Haley (yes)

Howie Kreutzberg (yes)