

MINUTES OF WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING
SEPTEMBER 09, 2008

A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly called and held on Tuesday, September 09, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Gerald Hickey. The following people were present: Robert Metcalf, Roger Race, Warren Hathaway, Chris Hemingway, Michael Gill and Norman Peloquin. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster.

Mr. Hickey reviewed the agenda for the meeting. Mr. Hathaway moved to accept the agenda. Mr. Peloquin seconded. So Moved.

The minutes of the meeting of August 12, 2008 was discussed. Mr. Race said on page 2 under Rogers Street the third line should read **\$42. per square meter** nor \$42 per spare meter. Mr. Hemingway moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Peloquin seconded as amended. So Moved.

Harbormaster Report.

Replace Boat. Mr. Melo reported that a surplus 17' Sport Whaler was awarded. He stated that we were first rejected, but we now have the chance for it. Mr. Melo asked if the WMC would like to get it. He said that it would replace the 13' Whaler on a small trailer. He said that the 17' Whaler gives the assistants more visibility and protection and is fuel-efficient. He is getting bids to haul it, he has a \$1,600. bid for the move. He said the 13' Whaler they are using was acquired by the police department and will be returned to them. This will be used for patrols. Mr. Melo said that this boat was used as a Marine Corp. recreational item and not for heavy work. Mr. Race said that we should get it. Mr. Hemingway said it should replace a boat and not be an additional boat. Mr. Melo said that he will be getting more hauling quotes. All were in favor of acquiring the boat.

Department Boat Update. Mr. Melo said that he has had work done on one trailer; he is seeking amounts for other boat work. He had to repair the throttle control box on the pontoon boat. Mr. Melo said the whole fleet, including the Jet Ski, now in the water, is in working order. Mr. Hemingway is glad that he is giving updates on the boats at each meeting and at the next meeting he would like to see the plan for the boats this winter. Mr. Melo said he is working on a list of what has to be done on each boat. Mr. Race asked about the buildings. Mr. Hickey said that Mr. Michael Gagne will attend the next meeting and go over the status of the buildings. Mr. Melo said that Mr. Gagne asked him to do research on the buildings and what has to be done, he said that the representative said that when the building was taken down a 4-foot cut was done on it, it can be sent to the manufacturer to fix, but he said that he is finding a way to repair them ourselves. Mr. Hickey said that the buildings have to be taken care of, where they will be going and the expense of taking care of them; also how the Waterways Department will benefit from it. Mr. Hickey said that Mr. Gagne will be at the next meeting and this can be discussed with him.

Hannah Preparation. Mr. Melo said that he posted a hurricane preparation list on the web site. He said that no major damage was done in the harbor. He said that they inspected and corrected several pennants in the harbor. Only one boat broke free by pulling a plank from a private dock, but no major damages resulted.

WWEF Statement from Town Accountant. Mr. Melo handed out a copy of the F/Y 2008 Budget recap from the Town Accountant. He said that \$6,500. was returned to retained earnings. Mr. Melo said that the salaries were higher than first estimated. Mr. Melo said that the revenue is almost equal to the expenditures. Mr. Melo said that he was asked to meet with Mr. Ed Iacaponi regarding accumulated personal time and the budget. Mr. Melo said that the overhead charges are what the Town takes from the Enterprise system. Mr. Peloquin said that we will be paying for insurance directly. Mr. Melo said that the Shellfish Boat is now stored behind the Police Station. Mr. Melo said he keeps the budget lean these economic times; but the cost of fuel hurts the budget.

Thermal Imaging Scope. Mr. Melo said that we get some equipment through the same program we get some surplus boats. He said that the imaging scopes can help with searches and in case of fire. He said that this can be used to look for things in the water; it picks up on body or engine heat.

Paskamansett River Clean up. Mr. Melo said that he attends the clean-up meetings. He said that they want to do a river race next year.

Old Business.

Concordia Mooring Permit Update. Mr. Melo said that there is a copy of the ACE Permit for Concordia in the packets. He said that the conditions are in line with what was discussed at the meeting with ACE. Mr. Melo reviewed the special conditions. Condition #1 states that the Waterways Management Commission retains final control. He said this is standard in all ACE permits. Condition #2 refers to the three moorings that are in eelgrass

beds. It states that by the 2009 mooring season these should be replaced with conservation moorings unless these moorings are not approved by the Town of Dartmouth in which case documentation must be provided. Condition #3 Ms. Carol Hill said that they are encouraging the Town to develop a local harbor management plan. Mr. Hemingway said that it looks like ACE is giving the permits to Concordia with the task of encouraging the Town to develop a plan. Condition #4 covers any future government changes that Concordia has to abide by them. Condition #5 Ms. Hill said that they have already sent in a plan to ACE and the Harbormaster showing the moorings. Mr. Hickey asked Ms. Hill to send a complete copy of what they sent to ACE to the harbormaster office. Ms. Hill agreed. Ms. Hill said there is a mooring in a location not where it should be, they will look into it and correct it. Mr. Melo said that Concordia has removed all their moorings from the channel and is keeping him updated with any new information.

Rogers Street Update. Mr. Race said that he spoke with Mr. David Hickox and Mr. Hickox has the final package from SITEC, they will walk the site tomorrow and the DPW will put the package out to bid. Mr. Hickey said that the DPW will be responsible for the bids and opening them and will submit their recommendation to the WMC. Mr. Race said that the Town Engineers will keep watch over the project. Mr. Melo said that CPC, Mr. Buddy Baker, has asked for an accounting of the money spent from their grant. He handed out a copy of a summary he put together. Mr. Peloquin asked if Mr. Baker knows the progress being done. Mr. Race said he is keeping him informed. Mr. Hickey said that we have to look to the future to see where any money needed will be coming from. Mr. Melo said that the Fall Town Meeting is soon, he said that we can spend the money then go to the Spring Town Money for a transfer. Mr. Hickey suggested asking CPC for more money, if needed. Mr. Peloquin suggested finishing the first phase and then go back for more money.

Mr. Melo said that there is a seminar in Boston on grant writing which could be a big help. Mr. Hemingway suggested sending one of the clerical staff. Mr. Melo will look into it. Mr. Hickey said that the police department has reviewed the project but didn't give any comments.

New Business.

Subcommittees. Mr. Melo handed out a list of questions/issues raised to date. Mr. Hickey asked the WMC to review the list and submit any additions or changes at the next meeting.

Regridding the Harbor. Mr. Race said that he did some preliminary estimations and thinks we could increase the boat mooring 15-17% by regridding. Mr. Melo said that could be a 50-100 increase in moorings, a good part of the waiting list. Mr. Hemingway said that other towns that have done regrids should be contacted. Ms. Hill said Marion didn't move people; they just organized with Helix moorings. Mr. Hickey agreed we should check with other Towns that have done this and get the benefits from it. Ms. Hill said that she knows two people that do this type of regrid. Mr. Melo feels if we don't use Helix we may have this problem again in the future. Mr. Hickey said we have to resolve how and why we want to do this first. Mr. Melo said that we have to have a plan to go by beforehand. Mr. Hathaway said that moving moorings around is a large undertaking; he said that there is a lot of space with no boats where moorings could go without regridding the harbor. Mr. Melo said that he would like a row of municipal moorings along the causeway. Mr. Hickey feels that this regrid has to be done with the least impact on the people. He said to check computer programs that may help. Mr. Race said to ask other harbormasters if a regrid was worth it.

Public Comment.

Mr. John Hayes agrees a channel to the pier should be done, he also feels having municipal moorings would be a good benefit. He feels if there isn't many problems with the boat swings, why regrid; maybe just filling in the empty spaces would add the needed moorings. He feels the buoy in the water needs to be moved more to the east. Mr. Melo said the buoy needs scope and the Coast Guard doesn't want to move it, they feel the buoys shouldn't move. Mr. Hickey said that the types of moorings in the harbor should be discussed and Mr. Melo said that this would have a big impact on the regrid. Ms. Hill said that Helix moorings last about 20 years. Mr. Hickey said to check with the people in the harbor that have Helix's and see how they like them.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Topics for the next meeting will be Mr. Gagne's meeting regarding the buildings, Rogers St. updates and the regrid of the harbor. Mr. Hathaway suggested having outside people on the subcommittees helping with ideas. Mr. Hickey suggested getting the boaters involved.

Mr. Peloquin moved and Mr. Hemingway seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Diane L. Vieira