

MINUTES OF WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 01, 2005

A meeting of the Waterways Management Committee was duly called and held on Tuesday, March 01, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Gerald Hickey. The following people were present: Mr. Hickey, Robert Metcalf, Roger Race, Norman Peloquin, Robert Szala, Warren Hathaway and Dr. Arthur Burke. Absent was Mr. Robert Szala. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster.

The minutes of the meeting of February 08, 2005 were reviewed. Mr. Metcalf moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Race seconded. So Voted.

Mr. Hickey reviewed the agenda for the evening. Mr. Hathaway moved to accept the agenda. Mr. Race seconded. So Voted.

Harbormasters Report. Mr. Melo reported that the mailings have all gone out, he received 25 back that were undeliverable and have researched them and sent them back out. Payments and forms are starting to be returned and are being entered into the database. The decals have been sent out for quotes.

Digital Camera. Mr. Melo has purchased a camera to enable taking of pictures as things happen. This will be useful for grants, incidents and emergencies.

Dinghy Racks. Mr. Melo handed out plans for the dinghy racks. He has taken pictures of racks that are being used, they show the height and how the dinghies are stored. He would like to use composite wood decking such as trex instead of pressure treated wood, they will be staying up 12 months a year, since there is no room for storage of them. The landing area will be the first racks set up.

Mr. Julian Race will be going on an extended vacation/semester abroad to Australia and will be returning around May 16th.

Legal Workshops. Mr. Melo stated he has been attending workshops set up by the Town. They cover a variety of topics and have been informative. The last meeting will be regarding eminent domain properties.

Old Business.

Mr. David A. Merrill of Boat Moorings.com was present to discuss re-gridding of the harbor. Mr. Merrill handed out information regarding his company. He said he started the company in Mattapoisett, and it has taken him around the world. He presented a slide show of different harbors that his company has done; including Marblehead Harbor. He said that the mapping of harbors have been around for a long time. He said there is a lot to consider including wind, currents and depth of the harbors. He has been able to put up to double the amount of boats in a harbor after re-gridding a harbor. He said that helix anchors are a good tool that can be used in a variety of ways, but are not necessary. He said that new anchors are very site specific. The process for mapping includes gathering information on the boats, reading the exact location of every mooring and mapping of the real situation. He will give the exact location of the boats and a map of the swing of the boat. They work very closely with the harbormasters. The database is turned over to the Town at the end of the job. He said they use a 8x24 barge to enable them to

work between the boats in the harbor, and have equipment that enable them to pull the chain and anchor up.

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Mr. Merrill stated that there are a lot of reasons for mapping: you obtain accurate data on the boats, create a map of the depth of water in the area, enable you to find the inequities of scoping, estimate current bathymetric study of the harbor, and gather the best evidence to adjust the depth of the different areas. He charts the locations of the water depth to enable scoping of the boat size. With all this information, it will enable you to locate where to put different boats to make the most efficient use of the area. Scoping of the boat is a major concern; people want more scope to enable boats to move around in storms. Scoping at the center point where the anchor is and the watch circle is determined at low tide, but you still have to know the high tide circle. Setting up in a triangular pattern is the most optimizing way to pattern it; but some areas like to line them up. The depth of areas in the harbor determines some area.

Mr. Merrill said that he has found it easier to re-grid the area in small steps, the residents will cooperate easier. He said they would like to work with Dartmouth and showed aerial photos of Apponagansett Harbor as it is now and how it would look after re-gridding. He said there is a lot of space for more boats. Mr. Hickey asked if re-gridding would create more space in our harbor. Mr. Merrill feels there is lost space in the harbor. He stated that they would: gather the format of all boating information; locate the existing moorings, provide data and map the current situation, and work with the harbormaster to optimize the harbor's space. He left the commission a proposal for Dartmouth which amounts to approx. \$60.00 per mooring.

Mr. Hathaway moved to take this under advisement. Mr. Race seconded. So Moved.

Next appointment was Ms. Alisa Leduc regarding grant information. She said that a grant has been chosen that they will apply for. She handed out a packet with the information and would like the WMC's input on it. Mr. Hickey said that parking at the landing is a big complaint he hears, he would like to see to the parking problems included in the grant. Mr. Hickey asked if the area being considered has to be capped. Ms. Leduc said it will be addressed in another area of the grant. Mr. Race asked about the American Disabilities Act compliant, Ms. Leduc said that since it is a Town building it has to be compliant. Ms. Leduc said that the application has to be easy to read if someone isn't familiar to the area. Mr. Melo said that the drawings of the area came after consultation with CBC., the exit on Rogers St. is not near CBC building so the children will not be in danger. The traffic problems may be eliminated if traffic will enter the area by St. John St. and exit on Rogers Street. The ramp plan will allow two boats to be launched at the same time. There will be spaces for residents who want to look at the water, picnic tables will be provided. Dr. Burke asked if this could be an area of concern for Dartmouth and New Bedford police. Ms. Leduc said that this will be taken into consideration and the police will be consulted.

Mr. Hathaway said that all the activity by CBC is on the north side of the pier and away from the Town side. He said that the CBC storage area is a big area and will be empty when the boats are in the water, making that area available for parking by CBC. He complimented Ms. Leduc on a job well done, covering all the areas of concern such as public access, etc. He suggested stressing education on the grant application. Mr. Hathaway feels that if New Bedford dominates the area, the load may not be taken off the Apponagansett landing. Mr. Melo feels that people will still use the Davy's Locker ramp to get to that area of the harbor. He feels that the Rogers St. area will take some load from the Apponagansett landing due to the Rogers St. proximity to Route 18. Mr. Melo feels that this area will be about the same size as the Apponagansett landing.

Mr. Hickey asked if it would help to identify the Town line on the map. Ms. Leduc will show the Dartmouth/New Bedford line on the map. Mr. Race asked if dredging would be involved. Mr. Minutes of the WMC Meeting, March 1, 2005 Page 3

Melo will have a site engineer look at the area to determine if the ramp construction will require dredging, and to what extent. Ms. Leduc said that part of the grant funding request includes paying for an engineering report. Mr. Hathaway asked if there is an amount for the grant. Ms. Leduc said that they are calculating it. Ms. Leduc said that the average amount for this grant is \$20,000 to \$2 million. Mr. Melo said that this grant is due March 18.

Ms. Leduc said that she drafted a letter to ask for support from the WMC. She said she will be getting a letter from CBC, Recreation, Conservation and other groups to show there is support for the project. Mr. Melo supplied a letter for signature of the WMC. Mr. Metcalf moved to sign the letter of support. Mr. Hathaway seconded. So Moved. All in favor, the WMC members signed the letter. Mr. Melo said he would obtain Mr. Szala's signature. The WMC thanked Ms. Leduc for her help with the grant.

New Business.

Mr. Melo said that there are three engines at the Police station that are not working. He stated they take up space and the parts cannot be used on other engines, he would like to dispose of them. Mr. Hickey suggested following the Town policy on disposing of equipment. Mr. Melo said he spoke with Mr. Iacaponi to determine the value of the engines. Mr. Race moved to follow Town police to dispose of the engines. Mr. Metcalf seconded. So Moved.

Mr. Melo said the Town has been offered a Dive vessel. He would like the support of the WMC to use it with the Dartmouth Police. He would like a memorandum of agreement with the DPD. He said there is some work to be done on it, it comes with a trailer and would be stored in Dartmouth but could be used in area towns. Mr. Peloquin moved for Mr. Melo to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the DPD and Dartmouth Fire Department regarding the vessel. Mr. Hathaway seconded. So Moved.

Mr. Melo said that he received the Army Corp of Engineers notification of approval for Hayes Mooring Corp. They have been approved with limitations.

Mr. Melo also received a notice from the Army Corps of Engineers regarding Salters Point seeking moorings. They are seeking five association moorings. Also, Misham Point is rebuilding their dock. Mr. Hathaway asked if Salters Point is in agreement with the decision made by the WMC last year. Mr. Hickey said that he felt they would be in our mooring field and Mr. Wayne would act as a liaison with the Harbormaster. Mr. Melo said that Mr. Wayne contacts him when there is someone on the mooring. Mr. Hathaway asked that Mr. Melo review the minutes to determine if their plan conforms with earlier discussions and be comfortable with the situation.

Mr. Melo said that there will be meeting on March 23, 2005 on the Clean Vessel Act Grant. He will be attending the meeting. Mr. Melo also stated that the DEP will be setting up an appeal process on decisions made by any Harbormaster on a state-wide basis.

Public Comment. None.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Leduc said that she will have more information on the grant at that meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Race and seconded by Mr. Metcalf to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Vieira