

MINUTES OF WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

JUNE 06, 2005

A meeting of the Waterways Management Committee was duly called and held on Monday June 06, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Gerald Hickey. The following people were present: Mr. Hickey, Roger Race, Robert Szala, Warren Hathaway and Dr. Arthur Burke. Absent were Mr. Robert Metcalf and Norman Peloquin. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster.

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

The minutes of the meeting of May 17, 2005 were reviewed. Mr. Race moved to accept the minutes with a few typographical corrections. Mr. Szala seconded. So moved.

HARBORMASTERS REPORT.

Landscaping at Town Landing. Mr. Melo said that in the past, both himself and Mr. Manny Mouro, Town Hall Custodian, have been mowing the landing. Mr. Melo reported that he has since purchased a lawn mower and weedwacker. He reported that both Julian Race and himself mowed the area in preparation for the parade. He reported that it cost approximately \$150.00 for the two to mow, and in the future he will look into hiring someone to do the area. He is checking into alternatives for the area to eliminate mowing. Mr. Szala suggested getting estimates for the season. Mr. Hickey suggested checking with the Park Department who maintains Apponagansett Beach. Mr. Hickey suggested checking with Mr. Michael Gagne to see what department this is under.

Dinghy Racks. Mr. Melo handed out a notice he developed to put on the dinghys in the area that will have the racks. He said he would be posting them to the dinghys on the south side of the ramp. Mr. Szala suggested putting the information on the web site so everyone will see it.

Angular Pump-Out Boats. Mr. Melo said that a large pump-out boat stood at the dock for the better part of last year and was stored at the treatment plant over the winter to dry out. He said that Mr. Arthur Dias has the tools and volunteered to store and repair it at no cost in exchange for assistance with his floats. The job was done well and looks like new.

2005 Decals. The decals were mailed out last Friday, along with a detailed cover letter.

Salters Point Petition to Army Corp. Mr. Melo handed out copies of the petition requesting four existing moorings and adding one new mooring to the Salters Point field. He is concerned about Mooring Regulation #5 regarding applying for moorings. He said that he has been speaking with Mr. Martin Wayne regarding other items and no mention of this was made. He said he is trying to realign and number the area. Mr. Hathaway asked who would maintain the field. Mr. Melo said it will be Salters Point and people with access there; Davis and Tripp maintains the area for Salters Point. Mr. Melo said that last year it was determined that Salters Point would maintain the moorings through a commercial mooring company. Mr. Hickey asked if he rents or buys a house there, how would he get a mooring. Mr. Melo said that people who buy a house; he checks if they want the previous owners mooring and go from there. Mr. Melo said that last year they reported to him who would be on the moorings. But sometime during the winter he applied for an Army Corp Permit to change the Salters Point moorings into commercial moorings so they could rent them out. Mr. Hathaway feels that if there is anything that Mr.

Melo is not comfortable with, he should let them know; he feels that if they service them and they are up to specs, it could be an easy way to handle it. Mr. Hickey said that he wants consistency with the rules for everyone. Mr. Melo said a real estate company was turned down last year to rent out moorings; but Mr. Szala said that they had never applied to the Army Corp of Engineers.

Users Guide to Moorings in Dartmouth & Flow Chart. Mr. Melo said that this guide will be an introduction for moorings, it is not complete rules and regulations. They are the general questions that he receives and will be posted on the web site to help mooring owners. Mr. Melo asked that the WMC review it and bring any suggestions to him. Mr. Hickey asked how many people have moved off the list. Mr. Melo feels approximately 25 have received moorings; he said that some people go from the bottom of the list to a mooring depending on the area requested. Mr. Hickey asked how long it would be to get more people on the water. Mr. Melo said there are sites available and he is notifying people on the waiting list. He said that on the north side of the bridge the turnover is about one year. Dr. Burke said that he feels there is room on the south side of the bridge where they could put more moorings and he feels the WMC should be aggressive in adding more moorings. He suggested setting up a subcommittee to look into this and report back to the WMC. He also suggested setting up different lists with specific requirements for the depth of water; it could move people faster. He feels this could be a good public relations item for the WMC. Mr. Hathaway agreed with Dr. Burke. Mr. Melo feels that they are ready to do this, he has a spreadsheet showing the requirements needed for people and this could be a start. Mr. Melo said that alot of people on the waiting list are not ready for a mooring this year, so he doesn't call again so they will not have two rejections against them. Mr. Hathaway asked Sharon of Davis & Tripp, if the Town has a spot for a mooring, how long will it take them to drop one. Sharon said they could do it quickly.

Dr. Burke made a motion to have two or three members of the WMC form a subcommittee to start working on this project. Mr. Szala suggested three members and seconded the motion. So Moved. Dr. Burke, Mr. Hathaway and Mr. Hickey volunteered for the subcommittee.

Mr. Szala asked how close they are to having 100% inspections done. Mr. Melo said that it should be completed in 2006, completing the 3-year cycle. He said that Julian Race has been putting it on a GIS map, starting with Salters Point and he will get a copy for the WMC.

Special Town Meeting Article #6 and Annual Meeting #32. Mr. Melo said that the Special Town Meetings deal with monetary issues left from the Fall Town Meeting. He said that Article #6 is to supplement the salary line items. Anything not spent will go back to the enterprise fund.

Article #32 is to use waterways enterprise funds for the purchase of 12 Rogers Street. He said that they would be using the funds for the purchase until they hear about the grant applied for. They will be purchasing it using a bond, if they grant doesn't come through they will pay on the bond yearly. Mr. Melo said that they need a majority vote at Town Meeting since it is coming from the general fund. Mr. Melo said that he has a presentation ready for Town Meeting, he will keep it short outlining the benefits the Town will received from this purchase. He said that Julian Race created a powerpoint presentation, but he is not using it to keep the presentation short. Mr. Hickey asked if anyone is available to go to Town Meeting to represent the WMC they should go.

Mooring Realignment. Mr. Melo said there are areas that need realignment. He said that there are a number of moorings being brought up that are not what the owners think they had. He said that when one site was sold, the new owner didn't want the old mooring, when Pioneer pulled it up it was a 100 lb. mushroom not a trainwheel. Another mooring hauled up was thought to be a 200-lb. mushroom, when it

was hauled up for inspection it was different and not a mushroom. Mr. Race said it is good they have an inspection schedule so that the owners will find out what they have, since this could be a dangerous situation putting boats on moorings not suitable.

OLD BUSINESS.

Dinghy Rack Plan. Mr. Melo said they have one built and he would like to build them all in-house. Mr. Hickey suggested they vote to accept the plan proposed at the Public Hearing on May 17, 2005. Mr. Hathaway moved to follow the proposed plan regarding dinghy racks and storage of them, and to form a subcommittee to set the parameters with preference given to commercial fisherman and the people with dinghys presently at the site. Mr. Szala seconded. So Moved. Mr. Hickey asked when the racks would be ready. Mr. Melo said one is built and once he has assistants they will be able to work on them, they will start on the south side. He said the dinghys there now will fit into the racks. Mr. Melo said he has to get stickers with the dinghy numbers and rack numbers. He suggested starting to enforce this next summer, but some will be in use this year. Mr. Race suggested putting a sheet on the sample rack so people would know what it is and how they will be using it. Mr. Szala suggested waiting until the next meeting to appoint a subcommittee.

Assistant Harbormasters. Mr. Melo said that the candidates applying are qualified. He said that two of the applicants are presently town employees, and there may be an issue with the Fair Laborers Standard Practice Act. This states that if you work 40 hours for one department and part time for another in the same municipality, you have to be paid overtime for the hours worked over 40. Mr. Melo said if this is true, it will eliminate the town employees. Mr. Melo said that he would speak with Mr. Iacaponi and Town Council. Mr. Melo said that he would like 2-3 part-timers and one full-timer. Mr. Melo said he would still put it on the website.

NEW BUSINESS.

WMC Appointment. Mr. Hickey said that it is time to reappoint members to the WMC. The term was set for three years scattering the appointments each year. The two appointments up for reappointment this year are Robert Szala and Dr. Arthur Burke. Mr. Hickey said that the Select Board will do the reappointment, the WMC will submit the names to the Select Board. Mr. Szala said that he would finish his term but not seek reappointment. Dr. Burke said that he is interested in serving another term. Mr. Szala moved to reappoint Dr. Burke to the WMC. Mr. Hathaway seconded. So Moved.

Mr. Hickey said that they have three candidates for the WMC. One candidate is not a town resident. Mr. Melo said that he is not sure if a non-resident can be on the WMC, but non-residents have moorings in the water. Mr. Hickey said that in addition to the seven members, the WMC could appoint non-voting ex-officio members to serve terms as decided. Mr. Hickey said that this is a way non-residents could sit in the meetings, if they are interested. Mr. Hickey said for the two openings: they have Dr. Burke for reappointment and three candidates, one is not eligible. Mr. Hathaway suggested sending the two candidates to the Select Board and letting them choose. Mr. Hathaway feels that the intent of the Waterways Management Commission was after the initial first two years, the seven members of the WMC will be appointed on a scattered schedule of three years each.

Mr. Szala moved that Dr. Arthur Burke is appointed for three years and the two other candidates go before the Select Board for the second position. Mr. Hathaway seconded. So Moved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Richard Ryeburg was present. He said that he had a trainwheel inspected in 2001 and somehow it changed to a mushroom in 2004. He has had a mooring since 1991 and it sunk in 1999. His mooring is N22-9 with a 23' sloop on it north of the bridge. He found the mooring after it sunk and in 2001 was told he had a trainwheel. In 2004 he was told it was a mushroom in poor condition. He said that in 2005 the eye of the mushroom broke and the chain came off. When he looked at the chain he was sure it was the one he had in 1999. He has replaced the mooring and he isn't sure what happened in the 2001 inspection. Mr. Szala said that he has documentation that two inspections in the same location show a trainwheel in one inspection and mushroom in the other inspection. The first one by Davis & Tripp, the second by Pioneer. Mr. Ryeburg said that he pulled a dog tag off one. Mr. Melo suggested putting locks on the chain to identify the gear. He said that there are discrepancies and he is trying to monitor them. Mr. Hickey asked Mr. Ryeburg to send a copy of his letter to Mr. Michael Gagne, Mr. Melo said he would forward it to Mr. Gagne. Mr. Ryeburg said that the window of 14 days to fix a problem is tight. Mr. Ryeburg said that he didn't know why it failed when it was new in 2001. Mr. Hickey said that the WMC is trying to be user-friendly and he will follow up with Mr. Gagne.

Mr. Hickey said that the summer schedule for the WMC would be to meet once a month in July and August. The next scheduled meeting will be the Monday, June 20, 2005 at which time they will go before the Select Board with the candidates for appointment and reappointment; also there will be election of new officers.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Vieira