

MINUTES OF WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

JUNE 20, 2005

A meeting of the Waterways Management Committee was duly called and held on Monday, June 20, 2005 at 7:07 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Gerald Hickey. The following people were present: Mr. Hickey, Robert Metcalf, Robert Szala, Warren Hathaway, Norman Peloquin and Dr. Arthur Burke. Absent was Mr. Roger Race. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster.

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

The minutes of the meeting of June 06, 2005 were reviewed. Mr. Peloquin noted in the first paragraph it should read the meeting was held on Monday, June 06, 2005. Also, Mr. Hathaway noted on the third page, under WMC appointment the second paragraph eighth line should read "the intent of the Waterways Management Commission" not Select Board. Mr. Metcalf moved to accept the minutes with the changes. Mr. Peloquin seconded. So moved.

HARBORMASTERS REPORT.

Select Board Meeting. Mr. Melo reported that the Select Board appointed the four Assistant Harbormasters: Daryl Collins, Charles Howland, Keith Manchester and Robert Miller for part-time and seasonal work. Mr. Melo reported these were not town employees, thus eliminating the overtime issue for non-contract blended employees. Mr. Hickey asked that they might come to the next meeting.

Mooring N28-06. Mr. Melo handed out pictures of the boat and mooring. He noted that he saw the boat this weekend in an area of smaller boats with no identification and not registered. The Police Department reported that the boat belonged to Carlos Costa of Swansea, MA. Mr. Melo reported that this mooring showed as of 2000, but had no registration. He said in 2003 Pioneer had it listed to a Russell Leite. He reported that the boat upon it had moved daily and endangered the surrounding boats. It was not safely secured to the mooring and he spent considerable time untangling the boat from another mooring and dinghy. He said that he received a call from Carlos Costa saying he sold the boat Chris Letendre. Mr. Melo is asking permission to haul the boat out and put it in storage until ownership is determined. Mr. Metcalf moved to haul the boat at the owners' expense. Mr. Peloquin seconded. So Moved. Mr. Peloquin asked if it was a hazard to navigation. Mr. Melo said yes. He said it was a 27' boat and seemed to bounce around from boat to boat in the mooring area.

Mr. Russell Leite was present. He said he has had the mooring since 1988. He reported that he has not received any mooring registration bills. He said he is a partner in the boat with his cousin, Chris Letendre. Mr. Leite said that his mooring is a 500-lb. mushroom; but Mr. Melo said it is listed as a grate with two rims. Mr. Hickey suggested Mr. Leite meet with the Harbormaster to determine the status. Mr. Melo said that they have an unregistered mooring. Mr. Leite will meet with the Harbormaster and go over all the records he has. Mr. Hickey said that the boat has to leave the harbor until this is resolved. Mr. Leite said it would be pulled out tonight or tomorrow. Mr. Melo said that Mr. Leite owns the mooring gear but the site belongs to the Town. Mr. Leite said he has the original plot plans and maps. Dr. Burke asked if he has ever had a mooring permit. He said that he hasn't received the mooring registration bill to pay the fees. Dr. Burke has if he had any documentation; Mr. Leite said he has receipts and will review them with Mr. Melo. Mr. Metcalf said that the mooring registration by-law went into effect in 1993. Mr. Hathaway suggested getting the boat out within 24 hours and then go over the

data with the Harbormaster, he can come to a future meeting to discuss the documentation he has. Mr. Hickey said all the rules and regulations can be seen on the website. Mr. Szala asked if any violations would be handed out. Mr. Melo said that the boat isn't registered so he hasn't issued any citations because there is no identifiable owner. He said that it should be pulled and stored until the owner appears. Mr. Szala suggested holding the boat until proper ownership is established. Mr. Leite said that he would show ownership in the morning. Dr. Burke said if ownership is established the owner can remove the boat.

Mr. Metcalf amended his motion to read if Mr. Leite can show proof of ownership in the morning, he can remove the boat. Mr. Hathaway seconded. So Moved. Mr. Metcalf withdrew the original motion.

Mr. Eric Lenz was present and said that he hasn't received any bills for his boat and he would like to go before the WMC in the future.

Salters Point.

Mr. Melo said that Davis & Tripp have provided the information on the moorings at Salters Point along with a map of the area. Mr. Melo stated there is no grid system to the mooring field; he proposes regriding of the area. He is receiving requests to move moorings there and to add moorings. He is presently having a hard time to identify the moorings in this area. Mr. Hathaway asked what should be done. Mr. Melo said to realign the area to make it safe. He would like to not make any changes to the mooring field at Salters until they can regrid the area. Mr. Peloquin asked what effect the regriding will have on Salters Point application to the Army Corp. Mr. Melo said he isn't sure, he was surprised by this application to the Army Corp. Mr. Hathaway feels the Army Corp. will not supercede the local regulations. Mr. Szala said that the harbormaster has the ability to regrid the area. Mr. Metcalf agrees with Mr. Melo that there has to be a system to identify all the moorings in this location.

Mr. Martin Waine of Salters Point was present. Mr. Waine said that he has spent a lot of time going over the moorings and submitted a report to Mr. Melo. He said that it is a chaotic system that has grown as needed with no system, there are 37 moorings in the field; thirty were inspected in 2003. He said that if the moorings are moved now, they will have to pay for the inspection a year earlier than scheduled. He said to move the mooring field now it will be hard because the area is full of boats. He agrees it should be done, but to do it off season. He said that there are no moorings that are a danger to the other moorings; he said that a few could be moved to make the area safer and move the whole field at a later time. He said if new moorings are put in, they will have to be moved again next year during the regriding but it will be easier than moving them all now. Mr. Waine said that there are five moorings due for inspection this year. Mr. Melo said that the data he has on Salters Point doesn't match. Mr. Melo said that Salters Point used Dave Brunette for inspections but he wasn't on the approved inspectors list; this is part of the problem.

Mr. Hickey said that all Town areas will eventually be regrided. Mr. Waine said that he has given Mr. Melo all the information of the moorings in the area. He said that if he receives a list from Mr. Melo on unregistered moorings he would make sure that they are registered. Davis & Tripp said that they are authorized to do four inspections in this area. Mr. Melo said that he doesn't have the inspection reports for all moorings in this area. Mr. Waine said that he would be glad to cooperate with Mr. Melo. Mr. Szala feels that the WMC should send a letter to Mr. Brunette to stop doing inspections because he is not recognized by the Town. Dr. Burke agrees that the owners should be held accountable for the inspections.

Dr. Burke asked the cost of regriding the area. Bill of Davis & Tripp said that it will be about \$50.00 each to move a mooring. Mr. Waine stated he is in favor of regriding and numbering the moorings but he feels it will be hard to do during the summer. Mr. Melo said he has an obligation to keep the area safe for

all boaters. Mr. Waine said that he feels that 30 of the 37 moorings have been inspected. Mr. Melo said that he doesn't have the inspections, or they were inspected by David Brunette.

Mr. Waine stated he has received an approved permit from the Army Corp. of Engineers. He said that they are now a legal commercial mooring operation. Mr. Melo said he has not been notified. Mr. Waine said that he has offered to work with the Harbormaster to get the mooring fields in order. Mr. Hickey said that Mr. Waine agreed to be a liaison between the WMC and Salters Point. Mr. Szala moved to regrid the Salters Point area according to the plans submitted by the Harbormaster. Mr. Metcalf seconded. So Moved to regrid Salters Point as submitted as soon as possible. Motion is approved unanimously.

Mr. Melo said that there are four people on the waiting list at Salters Point. Mr. Metcalf suggested no new moorings be installed until the regrading is finished. No motion is needed since people will go off the list after the regrading. Mr. Hathaway said that the main issue is they do not want moorings occupied that are not worthy to hold the boat. Mr. Hickey said that Mr. Waine is taking care of this issue. Mr. Hickey said they want to make sure all the moorings fit into the new regrading field. Mr. Hathaway asked Davis & Tripp how long it would take to organize Salters Point. Davis & Tripp said that they could move 10-15 a day with the boats on them. Mr. Waine asked how the owners should contact David & Tripp for the regrading. Mr. Melo said he would write a letter to all the owners assigning them a new site.

Twelve Rogers Street Property. Mr. Melo said that the closing would be tomorrow, June 21, 2005.

Jet Ski. The Jet Ski will be donated and shared with the Dartmouth Police Dept. It was tested and works fine; it will save on gas.

CBC Request. CBC requested to store equipment on the town property. Mr. Melo said that he couldn't authorize it because the area is contaminated and there is a grant pending that could be jeopardized. It has to conform with EPA status. Mr. Melo stated he would like to remove the seaweed in the area.

OLD BUSINESS.

Mooring Assignments. Mr. Melo said that in the future he would be letting the owners know the name of the person receiving the mooring site. The present owner will be responsible for either removing their equipment or selling it to the new owner. Mr. Melo said that the Harbormasters Office should stay out of negotiations. Dr. Burke suggested adding "To Sell or Remove Mooring Gear" to the request for permission to relinquish mooring permit forms. This will help people to understand what has to be done.

WWMC Appointments. Postponed to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS. None.

PUBLIC COMMENT. None.

The next scheduled meeting will be Monday, July 11, 2005.
It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Vieira