

MINUTES OF THE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, June 06, 2016

A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly scheduled for Monday, June 06, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 by the Chairman, Gerald Hickey. Present were members: Joseph Hannon, Roger Race, Warren Hathaway, Geoffrey Marshall and Andrew Herlihy. Absent was Mr. Gerard Clark. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster, Debra Melino-Wender, Grant Administrator and John Haran of the Select Board.

The minutes of the meetings of May 05 and 19, 2016 were discussed. On the minutes of May 05, 2016, Mr. Marshall said that there were references to Mr. Hemingway in the minutes and it should be Mr. Hathaway. Mr. Race moved to accept the minutes with the changes. Mr. Marshall seconded. So Moved. The minutes of May 19, 2016 were reviewed. Mr. Hannon moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Marshall seconded. So Moved.

Mr. Hickey reviewed the agenda for the evening. It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda.

Ad-Hoc Committee. Ms. Leslie Lawrence was present and stated that the Grant is a good idea but feels it is an unsafe area for this project. She feels that town owned properties could be used for this project such as the Dias Landing or the ramp on Water Street. She said this would allow the full grant to be used on this project. She asked who maintains the Water St. landing. Mr. Hickey said that waterways is partly responsible for this area. She also said that there could be a revenue income marina at the Dias Landing. She said that no one wants to walk away from the grant but feels that the grant should be repurposed. She said that another plan can be submitted at the October Town Meeting. Ms. Patty Sweriduk of Elm Street, also an Ad-Hoc member, said that other plans have been discussed. She said that they have talked/e-mailed with Carolyn Kirk of the Seaport Economic Council. She said that Ms. Kirk as agreed that an alternate plan could be submitted; quite often grants do get changed. She feels that the Dias Landing could be an income producing maritime center. This would give resident access to the water with a boardwalk added to the existing docks. Mr. Hannon said that he is concerned where the budget for this would come from. Ms. Sweriduk said it could come from user fees for seasonal slips, Marion charges \$300.00 yearly for a slip. Mr. Herlihy is concerned with the parking issues in the summer. Mr. Melo said that the landing parking is rarely completely full during the summer. Mr. Hathaway said that there isn't enough room for a maritime center on Water Street. Mr. Race asked if the Committee has spoken with Conservation regarding the boardwalk. The Committee hasn't spoken with them yet. Mr. Melo said that the Town owns the area from the yellow house to the bridge. Mr. Hickey asked how often the Seaport Council meets. They meet quarterly. Dr. Arthur Burke said that they have met with professionals and are ready to go forward with alternative plans if the article fails tomorrow. He feels that they can submit another plan quickly. Mr. John Flynn said that work as to be done at the Water Street landing anyway. He said maybe an area of the harbor should be set aside for canoes and kayaks. He said he has seen close calls between jet skis and kayaks. Mr. Hickey said that Mr.

Melo is very qualified to handle different situations. Mr. Hannon said that this is not a waterways project, they were involved in January and he would like to know if the Parks and Recreation has been involved. Ms. Debra Melino-Wender said that this is a Town of Dartmouth Grant that includes Parks and Recreation as a grant primary. She said that this is a grant-in-progress and changes will be made as it goes on. Mr. John Haran asked if the maintenance cost of this has been determined and suggested money be put aside for the upkeep of the docks. Mr. Marshall said that the way the article is written, if it passes tomorrow it will be for the purchase of 4 Water Street. He asked if the grant can be changed after that or will we be tied into the purchase of 4 Water Street. He said the plan for the area near the bridge looks good. Mr. Hickey asked how the WMC would like to stand on this article. Mr. Hathaway feels that a plan B should be submitted. Mr. Marshall said that the WMC voted at a past meeting to endorse the article. Mr. Hannon suggested that the WMC vote in favor of it with some stipulations. Mr. Hickey said that he voted for it since the Select Board is looking into the purchase of the property; but he still has questions on this and said that he just found out that the house is to be demolished. Mr. Hathaway said that the Select Board asked them at their first meeting to look into other alternatives. Mr. Hickey said that there is a now second plan to be looked into. Mr. Herlihy asked if we could vote to be part of the project. Dr. Burke feels that the Town Meeting will look to the WMC for their opinion on this. He said that we can get the grant again with an alternative plan, but if we spend the money on 4 Water Street we will be done. Mr. Hickey said that he would like to submit Plan B to the Select Board. Mr. Race agreed. Ms. Sweriduk said that it is important as an authority board that the WMC reject the 4 Water St. plan. Mr. Hannon said that we cannot reconsider a revote. Mr. Marshall said that he moves to accept Plan B since it is more user friendly and uses land that the Town already owns. Mr. Race seconded. Mr. Race said that the primary thing is economic benefit with access to water. Mr. Hathaway feels this plan has good water access. Mr. Hickey agreed. Mr. Hickey asked if this plan should be submitted to the Select Board. Mr. Marshall said yes. Mr. Hickey said that the vote will be sent to the Select Board. Mr. Marshall wrote the motion and Mr. Haran said that he will read it into the Town Meeting tomorrow. Mr. Marshall wrote that the WMC move to endorse Plan B because it is safer access to the water and has the potential to produce revenue. Mr. Hickey moved to accept Plan B. Mr. Hathaway seconded. Mr. Marshall feels the concept of Plan B as an alternative and to bring this to the Select Board. Mr. Hannon feels that Plan B is what the WMC has been trying to do for years. Mr. Hickey said that Mr. Marshall's motion is an alternative to Plan A and they want it considered. Mr. Race moved to accept Plan B in lieu of 4 Water Street. Mr. Herlihy seconded. It was voted 5-1, Mr. Hannon opposed. Mr. Race will send both motions to Mr. Cressman.

Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Hannon moved to postpone this until after Town Meeting. Mr. Race seconded. So Moved.

Town Meeting Position. Mr. Hickey, Race and Hathaway will be present at Town Meeting. Mr. Hickey said that they will be there and give opinions if needed.

Harbormaster Laws 2-day seminar. Mr. Melo said that he has submitted paperwork for the training seminars in June. He said it is relevant and important that he attend this. He has attended similar update sessions over the past 12 years.

Learn to Quahog Sessions. Mr. Melo said that this program will be held on July 2 from 11:00 to 1:00 at Smith Neck Road, Knowles Beach, in conjunction with Coalition for Buzzards Bay.

New Business. Mr. Hickey said that he was asked if the WMC is still interested in the Water Street house and he would like the board's opinion. Mr. Marshall said he is not interested in it. Mr. Hannon said the WMC is not interested in putting their office at 4 Water Street. He said that we voted in October that we were not interested in moving into the house.

Public Comment. None.

The next meeting to be determined with a tentative date of Thursday, August 25, 2016 @ 4:00 p.m.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane L. Vieira