

MINUTES OF THE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly scheduled for Tuesday, July 12, 2016. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 by the Chairman, Gerald Hickey. Present were members: Joseph Hannon, Roger Race, Warren Hathaway, Gerald Clark, Geoffrey Marshall and Andrew Herlihy. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster, and Debra Melino-Wender, Grant Administrator.

The minutes of the meeting of June 06, 2016 was discussed. Mr. Hickey noted that Ms. Melino-Wender name was misspelled. Mr. Race moved to accept the minutes with that change. Mr. Herlihy seconded. So Moved. Mr. Hickey reviewed the agenda for the evening. Mr. Hannon said that we received an e-mail from the Park Department that stated they were not interested in being involved with the Water Street project. Mr. Melo said that that letter was not included with the meeting packet. Mr. Race moved to accept the agenda. Mr. Hathaway seconded. So Moved.

Maritime Center. Mr. Hickey said that there are two members of the Ad-Hoc committee present, Kevin Murphy and Patty Sweriduk. Mr. Hickey asked for a review of Plan B. Ms. Sweriduk said a group went to Boston including herself, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Melino-Wender, and Mr. Arthur Burke to meet with Carolyn Kirk, Head of the Seaport Economic Council to talk about securing the money for a Plan B. Ms. Kirk said that this is considered a revised application since the land involved is currently owned by the Town. Ms. Kirk seemed very positive. The grant has to be rewritten in parts and is due November 1, 2016 or before. Ms. Kirk feels that the new grant meets all the check points that the previous grant did; such as deep water access and dingy spots. Ms. Melino-Wender said that Mr. Cressman has contracted CLE Engineering firm for a layout of the project. Mr. Hickey said that CLE was involved with the regrid of the south side. Ms. Sweriduk said that \$10,000. has been set aside for the engineering. She said that they also spoke with the Padanaram Village Association and they were invited to meet with the group today. She said that Jim Barrington will represent the group at the Ad-Hoc meetings. Ms. Melino-Wender said that there should be representation on the Ad-Hoc committee from the Waterways Commission. Mr. Murphy said that the Dias Apponagansett Landing site is out of the picture now and they will be concentrating on the Water Street Landing area. He said that in the future they can apply for another grant. Ms. Sweriduk said that they will be meeting on July 18th at the site. Mr. Murphy said that this area near shore at the landing has a different current from the area at 4 Water Street and isn't so rough due to less current. He said that concrete floats will not have to be pulled from the water in the winter. He also said maybe a wraparound deck on the second floor outside a Harbormaster's office would allow the Harbormaster to see the entire harbor from his office. Mr. Race said that this is the site of a former Toll House. Mr. Hickey asked about the price of this project. Mr. Murphy said that they are using 1.2 million as the target cost. Ms. Melino-Wender said that they are getting early estimates now. Mr. Hickey said that we are looking at concrete flats and ramps that are ADA compliance. Ms. Sweriduk said that the building will work as a welcome center also. Mr. Hickey said that along with the building at some point there will be a concrete ramp into the water. Mr. Melo said that they need to maintain a pump-out facility for the boats. Mr. Race feels that they are well on their way with this project. Mr. Hannon said that he is happy with the progress and he said he received an e-mail from Mr. Cressman asking that someone be appointed to represent Waterways on the Ad-Hoc committee. Mr. Hickey said they will do this later in the meeting. Mr. Hickey said this meeting was to see if the Waterways Commission would like to support this project. Mr. Race moved that this is the type of project that the Waterways have been trying to do. Mr. Marshall seconded. Mr. Hannon said that the motion is pending the WMC seeing the final plans for the area. So Moved. Mr. Hickey said that this project will benefit the boaters in the area. All the WMC members are in favor of the project. Mr. Hickey said that the second

part of this is assigning responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of this project; different groups should be assigned responsibility for the different parts of this project. Ms. Melino-Wender feels that Select Board should be a part of this. She suggested a draft plan be made. Mr. Hickey wants the WMC be involved in the planning. Mr. Race agreed. Ms. Melino-Wender said that they haven't started on this yet and will take all suggestions under advisement. Mr. Hannon noted that the bath facilities are seasonal in the plans, and asks how the village feels about this. Mr. Murphy said that this is why they want everyone involved in the meetings, to get everyone's input on these plans. Mr. Hannon asked if the boater fees will be used for this project. Ms. Melino-Wender said that the grant doesn't require knowing the different areas of responsibilities; they feel the Town and the groups involved should work this out. Mr. Race moved to accept this as a first interpretation of the waterways responsibilities. Mr. Herlihy agreed. So moved.

Mr. Hickey said that there will be a meeting on July 19th at 2:30 and would like a volunteer to go. Mr. Race volunteered to go to the meeting. Mr. Hannon moved to have Mr. Race represent the WMC at the meetings. Mr. Hathaway seconded. So Moved.

Mr. Hannon asked if the CPC was still on board with this grant. Ms. Melino-Wender said that Mr. Cressman is sending a letter to the CPC to reconsider this project. She said that she will be attending a meeting with the CPC on this tonight. She said they will be considering extending the date on this and if the project is still eligible. She said that this may still have to go to Town Counsel.

Dias Landing. Mr. Melo said that the causeway project has stalled progress on this. He said that they will still be cleaning it out to use it as a satellite office.

Waterways Commission Reappointments. Mr. Melo said that they are looking into this and Mr. Cressman stated that the reappointment process will be reviewed.

Quahog Program. Mr. Melo said that the learn-to-quahog program was a great success. He said that about 30 people showed up and that the reviews and press coverage of it was great.

Fourth of July Weekend. Mr. Melo said that it was a good weekend and the landing area was not overflowing. The fireworks in New Bedford went off well with no problems.

New Business.

Apponagansett Quahog Relay Program. Mr. Melo said that a grant has provided the Town with 800 bushels of quahogs. He said that the quahogs will reproduce and clean themselves out. He said that he and his staff will be planting the quahogs in the water. The quahogs are coming from the Taunton River.

Public Comment. None.

Mr. Hannon asked about the reappointment problem. Mr. Melo said that he will meet with Linda Torres and try to resolve this. Mr. Hannon said that the new by-law wasn't submitted to the Attorney General. The new by-law will be resubmitted to the Attorney General.

Mr. Hickey said that there previously was a meeting set up for August 25, 2016 @ 4:00 pm and that will stand. If another meeting is needed, it can be called at a later date

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane L. Vieira