

## MINUTES OF WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING

JULY 19, 2011

A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly called and held on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Dartmouth Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Joseph Hannon. The following people were present: Roger Race, Gerald Hickey, Warren Hathaway, Chris Hemingway, and Gerald Clark. Absent was Michael Gill. Also present was Mr. Steven Melo, Harbormaster.

Mr. Hannon reviewed the agenda for the evening. Mr. Race moved to accept the agenda. Mr. Clark seconded. So. Moved.

The minutes of the meeting and public hearing of June 14, 2011 were reviewed. Mr. Hickey moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Hemingway seconded. So Moved.

The minutes of the meeting of June 22, 2011 were reviewed. Mr. Hickey asked about season passes. Mr. Melo said that the Commission would like to eliminate the season pass at Rogers St.; he said that it would be a daily fee with no annual permits available. Mr. Hemingway moved to accept the minutes. Mr. Race seconded. So Moved.

### New Business.

Personnel Changes. Mr. Melo said that he hired two new employees that are in training now. Mr. Julian Race has moved away from the area and will be missed. Mr. Melo informed the WMC that Ms. Lisa Litos will be looking for full time employment. Mr. Melo said she understands that we do not have the money in the budget this year. The demands of boaters on the Department warrants a full-time clerical Assistant Harbormaster and he would like to add it next year. Mr. Hannon asked if the Shellfish Department could supplement that salary and benefits. Mr. Melo said that Lisa answers the phone for both departments. Mr. Hickey feels that she is a good help for Mr. Melo and will allow him more time off. Mr. Hickey said that Mr. Melo should make a full time job description for the job. He said that the clerical job is more demanding now and she needs more hours for the accountability sought by the Town. Mr. Melo said he would like to see a Clerical Assistant and an Assistant Second in Command to help him out; this should cover all areas of the operation. He feels we should re-define our structure and how we want it to work.

### Old Business.

Shellfish Subcommittee Report. Mr. Melo said that Mr. Race received a Division of Marine Fisheries letter detailing points of a good Shellfish Management Plan. He said that Mr. Michael Hickey is the Chief Biologist for the State; he said that they will not write a plan but they will help with the plan. He said that Mr. Neil Churchill and Tom Shields of the Division will be willing to help us with this. Mr. Melo said that at the next Ad-hoc Committee meeting they will discuss getting a management plan. Mr. Barry Walker was present and said that he is working on a plan. Mr. Walker said that he would like to put the Clerical staffing issue into the plan. Mr. Melo said that the next shellfish meeting will be on July 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Melo said that Mr. Walker, Mr. Mark Nunes and Russell Luiz have been added to the committee. Mr. Walker said that the letter to the Select Board regarding his comments at the June 20, 2011 Select Board meeting should have been discussed with him first. He said that he now understands how the department works and he would like to work with the Waterways Commission. Mr. Hickey said that the commission is trying to do all they can to help on the waterfront. Mr. Hannon said that we have to be sure not to use Waterways User fees for the Shellfish Division. Mr. Hemingway said that he was offended with some of the comments but feels everyone has to be on the same page. Mr. Walker said that \$22,000.00 has been budgeted for the Shellfish Division. Mr. Melo said that he has been researching Shellfish regulations and issues on his own time.

Waterways By-Law Revision Subcommittee. Mr. Hannon said that we are looking at draft by-laws that put the WMC in an advisory capacity. He said he spoke with the Assistant Town Counsel and the rewrite of by-laws will trim out things but not change the fundamental approach. Mr. Hannon said that Town By-Laws set the user fees. Mr. Melo said that he has written enforcement in the past with that money going to the waterways fund; but now

the money goes into the general fund. Mr. Hathaway said that the loss of funds will reflect into the services provided.

Rogers Street Update. Mr. Hannon asked what has been done in this area. Mr. Melo said he spoke with Mr. Michael O'Reilly and his Board will be addressing the light pole at a meeting in August. Mr. Melo said that the bid for lighting is pending approval of the pole. Mr. Melo said that there was a hole at the end of Rogers Street after the rain, the DPW looked at it. He said that the sand is filling in the hole as the tide rises and goes out. He said that he put barrels there to protect people from the holes. Mr. Melo said that Mr. Peter Durant asked what money had been expended in this area. He gave him the public information on the expenditures. Mr. Melo said the Town posted 'No Parking' signs in the area. Mr. Clark said that he was surprised that the parking lot isn't being used to grant the public access to the area. Mr. Hickey said that there is now a liability concern for the Town. Mr. Hannon said that someone should go to the next Select Board meeting to discuss this area. Mr. Hickey and Mr. Clark said that they would attend the meeting; Mr. Hannon said that we need actual numbers at the meeting. Mr. Hemingway suggested estimating the cost of running the area different ways. Mr. Melo said that if we open the area the Community Boating and Jones Beach people will monopolize the area, while maintenance costs will need to come from boater funds. Mr. Walker asked about giving the area back to the Town. Mr. Race said we've tried that, but the Park Department and they didn't want it. Mr. Race suggested that we talk to CBC to see if they want to lease the area for a realistic cost. Mr. Hannon said that he will attend the meeting with anyone who can go with him.

Re-Grid Project. Mr. Melo said that a few changes were made and they went out to bid for relocating the moorings. Mr. Hannon said to send it to Greg Barnes for approval. Mr. Hannon said that the cap for the project is \$25,000.00.

Harbormaster Report.

Budget Update. Mr. Melo said that he just received the update and will review it at the next meeting.

Vacation Request. Mr. Melo said that he submitted a request to go on vacation next week. He said he submitted it to Mr. David Cressman.

Public Comment.

Mr. Barry Walker asked if the WMC has any information on the Shellfish Department he would like to see it; along with any suggestions for this department. Mr. Melo said that he will forward all he has when he returns from vacation. Mr. Melo said that he needs a plan to follow if he is to be responsible for the Shellfish Department.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane L. Vieira