

MINUTES OF THE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday May 23, 2023 - 4:00 p.m. Zoom/Remote Meeting

DCTV RE-broadcast link:

<http://dctv-18.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/8882?site=2>

A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023. This meeting was held remotely under the Governor's COVID-19 allowances for public gatherings.

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m by Chairman Hickey. Present and participating were members: Gerald Hickey, Andy Herlihy, Kevin Murphy, Dana Dornbusch, Roger Race and Patty Sweriduk. Also present was HM Melo and FinCom liaison Bob Gauvin.
2. **Minutes of the prior meetings: 3/7/2023 and 4/11/2023** minutes were moved, seconded and voted unanimously approved for posting as written.
3. **Grant Projects on our plate - Review**
 - A. **SEC/Dias Landing Marina design and permitting:** HM Melo reports that Foth Engineering has submitted for permits from DEP and USACE. Approvals will arrive on their schedules.
 - B. **Dias Landing Marina Construction:** TA MacInnes has requested bids/costs from Foth to prepare construction documents and bidding specs for construction. Funds for that work will come from the awarded SEC construction grant. Timeline targets late fall 2023 or early 2024 for bidding with construction in the Fall of 2024. HM Melo reports that he met with TA MacInnes and Tim Lancaster of Parks regarding the CPC required MOU. Completion of that document is none in the hands of Mr. MacInnes per his directive. Mr. Melo offered that instead of "splitting hairs" with the Park Board over what percentage of Landing parking revenue they wanted for signing an MOU, the Town give them 100% of the revenue, but they take on 100% of the landing operation, allowing HM Staff to focus on the waterways. Mr. Gauvin reported that he is liaison to both waterways and Parks. He found many of the comments made at the recent Community Preservation meeting to be highly inappropriate. Mr. Murphy made a motion for adoption of a draft MOU he prepared to be sent to the TA for consideration.
 - C. **SEC funded Dredging feasibility:** Mr. Melo reports that the Toan (TA) signed a contract with Foth to perform the feasibility and scope study as a first step in possible harbor dredging.
 - D. **SEC funded Economic Valuation:** HM Melo reports that the Town Administrator now believes that this project will not need a Ch. 30B bidding process. The proposal from FXM associates was again forwarded to Mr. McInnes for consideration.
 - E. **SEC new grant applications** were due May 1st. IT has been reported, but not seen, that the Town (TA) submitted two new grant applications- one for feasible options to improve Rogers Street waterways access and one for the combined Apponagansett peninsula.
 - F. **Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Municipal Vulnerability Planning (MVP):** it was determined that the Town will resubmit and try again for funding through CZM. Not a Waterways Department sponsored project, but it would rely heavily upon Department resources and time.
 - G. **Buttonwood to Bay:** collaborative water quality grant project with the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, into its second year, this project continues for several more years to study the pollution impacts leading into Apponagansett Bay and develop remediation.

4. **Harbor Management Plan Implementation/Dock Permitting subgroup update:** Patty Sweriduk reports little new to report, focussing upon the importance of the economic valuation contract and the water quality projects.
5. **Screening Seasonal Applicants:** HM Melo reports receiving at least 15 applications from Indded.com through the efforts of Personnel Director Beausang. Unfortunately, he finds scarce mention of boating skills or water experience in those applicants. He has hired one qualified candidate who starts this week and offered a position to another well-qualified candidate who instead took employment in the private sector. To verify that he has not overlooked any potential candidates, he asks for one or two volunteers from the Commission to screen the applications and advise on potential interviews to offer. MR. Hickey and Mrs Sweriduk volunteer to screen and advise of any potentially good fit with Department needs.
6. **June Town Meeting:** There is nothing regarding waterways beyond the Fiscal Year budget. No issues to submitted budger and no surprises expected.
7. **No public comment offered.**
10. **Next meeting** is scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on 6/27/2023 via remote/zoom technology.
11. The meeting was adjourned by unanimous roll call vote @ 5:00 p.m.