

## MINUTES OF THE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday December 15, 2020 - 4:00 p.m. Zoom Remote meeting

Zoom Meeting Id: 845 16554051

DCTV Archive: <http://75.147.58.17/CablecastPublicSite/show/6532?channel=2>

A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.. This meeting was held remotely through zoom due to the Governor's COVID-19 ban on large public gatherings.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hickey. Present and participating were all Commission members: Gerald Hickey, Roger Race, Andy Herlihy, Warren Hathaway, Kevin Murphy, Geoff Marshall, and Patty Sweriduk. Also present was Urban Harbors Institute (UHI) representative Allison Novelly and Select Board member John Haran.
2. The **minutes** of the last meeting of 11/17/20 were reviewed and discussed. It was moved by Andy Herlihy and seconded by Patricia Sweriduk to accept and post the minutes with minor adjustments. All approved by roll call vote.
3. **UHI Marina Feasibility Study Update, Contract Status:** Allison Novelly gave an update on the ongoing online survey. She commented that the survey was re-posted on the Town website without the prior deadline. This was helpful for public outreach, especially to the non-boating public. The survey is expected to continue until the end of the calendar year. Comparative site visits and municipal marina management interviews in other towns continues. Sources for current bathymetric data are being sought, including a robotic survey invention that could be available in early 2021.
4. **Dias Landing:**
  - a. **DEG and Security Cameras:** Town Administrator MacInnes was invited to attend this meeting to update on the status of the project. He was unavailable to attend, but has a project meeting scheduled for Friday 1/18 at 9:00 am on site. Commission members are not invited to attend as his preference. Mr. Haran suggested that having one representative of the Commission present might be best. Mr. Hickey said that he unsuccessfully raised that suggestion with the Administrator. Mr. Melo included the memo on the DEG issues requested by the Town Administrator. In that memo he detailed the serial numbers of two pieces of new internet equipment removed from the Maritime Center without his knowledge or permission. That equipment is included in Department inventory and remains missing. Mr. MacInnes assured Mr. Melo that he would get that equipment back to the Department.
  - b. **Lighting moves:** Harbormaster Melo has a purchase order to Pine Ridge, the lowest bidder for moving and updating the light fixtures at the landing. The Commission was unanimously in agreement to get that going.
  - c. **Dock Float removal:** Pioneer Mooring Service removed all the landing floats for winter storage in the Dias Landing. This was necessary to prevent ice and winter storm damage to those structures. They will reevaluate the former pumpout floats for possible further use.
5. **Rogers Street:**
  - a. **Sand accumulation on ramp:** It is possible that deflecting rain water running down Rogers Street might be effective in flushing clear sand off the ramp. A system of curbing stops might be used to deflect rain down the ramp. CBC is willing to experiment with more effective redirection of the force of nature. Re-filling of the ramp by tidal sand is inevitable, but any ideas are worth the attempt to improve the site.
  - b. Use of the seasonally closed parking lot for CBC off-season vessel storage appears to be going well.

**6. Maritime Center:**

- a. Mr. Melo noticed during a remote meeting from the closed facility that all three outside walls were dripping wet, causing a puddle along those 3 walls. He submitted an email request on 12/1/20 to the Town Administrator to approve the purchase of a dehumidifier with waterways funds to prevent that wetness from rusting the interior metal conduit on the wall surfaces. Mr. Hickey suggested he would follow-up with another email to the Town Administrator. Mr. Murphy said that emails to Mr. MacInnes have not worked, unless he hears otherwise he should proceed as he intended. Mr. Race said to just buy the dehumidifier at this point.
- b. Mr. Melo reported that the Town Administrator noted weak internet service during a remote meeting from that building. Mr. Melo reminded Mr. MacInnes of the missing equipment and he assured him he would locate and return it. That will also be discussed at the upcoming Friday meeting.

**7. Conservation Commission Correspondence:** The Harbormaster distributed a draft policy change submitted by recently-appointed Conservation Agent Marc Garrett. This policy change addresses the timing of dock projects requiring Harbormaster review and comment. This is the first step in attempting to logically and equitably manage the process of multiple submissions and revisions for the same project. The Commission voted unanimously to support the statement and encouraged further collaborative efforts between the two Departments for the benefit of Town service. Mr. Melo stated that he will attend the Conservation Commission zoom meeting later this evening to report the appreciations of the Waterways Commission for this positive step forward. Mr. Melo sees this as a first step toward cooperation and collaboration as recommended by the harbor management plan. Charting areas of the waterways for possible structures, reviewing the fees required for such projects and other common concerns will be addressed in future collaborations with ConCom.

**8. New and Improved waterways webcam installed:** Mr. Melo announced that an updated, modern webcam was provided by local boater Doug Curits through his company Alarm New England. Profuse gratitude was extended to Mr. Curtis for his benevolence and concern for our waterways. This new PTZ camera with 4 terabyte of storage was donated and installed to replace an earlier version of the only public webcam in Dartmouth. This camera provides valuable public access opportunities to the web for people seeking to view the harbor or check out boats. It also serves as an integral component to harbor security. Work is underway to link this new webcam to the new Department website for public viewing of determined sites.

**9. New Patrol Boat Ordered:** Mr. Melo spent considerable time with Town Treasurer Barnes to make sure that the GSA bid and ordering process for the approved Town summer rescue/patrol boat was in proper order. Following that meeting, a purchase order was completed and approved by the Town Treasurer. It has been submitted to SafeBoat of Bremerton, WA for an anticipated spring of 2021 delivery. All that will be needed to put this vessel into continued service will be bottom paint. Factory bottom painting was not deemed cost-effective. It is otherwise being delivered in “turn-key” readiness.

**10.** The next meeting is scheduled (remotely) by Zoom for 4:00 p.m. on 1/19/2020

**11.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.