

MINUTES OF THE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday November 17, 2020 - 4:00 p.m. Zoom Remote meeting

Zoom Id:

DCTV Archive: <http://dctv-18.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/show/6447?channel=2>

A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2020. 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 members: Gerald Hickey, Roger Race, Andy Herlihy, Warren Hathaway, Kevin Murphy, Geoff Marshall, and Patty Sweriduk. Also present was Urban Harbors Institute (UHI) representatives Allison Novelly and Steven Bliven, Select Board Chair Frank Gracie and FinCom Waterways Liaison Robert Gauvin .
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 as presented. All approved by roll call vote.
3. **UHI Marina Feasibility Study Update, Contract Status:** Allison Novelly explained that UHI-UMass Boston and the Town have finally executed a contract for services on the Marina feasibility study. She described the action items accomplished to date. The survey has generated 126 public responses to date. She discussed their inability to get the survey deadline (stated on the Town website) removed to keep the online survey active. Mr. Melo relayed that several emails to correct this have been attempted. A final request will be made to the Town Administrator to correct this and remove the deadline. Allison will provide a summary of data and information for the next waterways meeting.
4. **Dias Landing**
 - a. **DEG and Security Cameras:** P. Sweriduk gave a history of the “difficulties” in getting this issue addressed and resolved. K. Murphy expressed great dissatisfaction with this unresolved project and what he describes as inability to resolve this after considerable time. Mr. Gracie asked questions to better understand the issues and cause of frustration to the Commission. Mr. Race focused on why Mr. MacInnes cannot give timely answers to emails from waterways on issues? Mr. Gracie asked for a detailed description of what has transpired, and why. Mr. Hickey stressed that the Harbormaster has been instructed to, and he does follow the “chain of command” as defined by the Town Administrator. P. Sweriduk offers to put together a point-by-point of the history and issues regarding DEG.
 - b. **Lighting moves:** Harbormaster Melo described the twists and turns taken in his effort to have the lighting fixtures moved to better locations in an effort to prevent light pollution across the harbor.
 - c. **Dock Float removal:** The Harbormaster has contracted with Pioneer for winter removal of all floats and gangways associated with the Dias Landing. This is necessary to prevent ice and winter storm damage to those structures. Removal is scheduled for 11/20/20.
5. **Rogers Street**
 - a. **Sand accumulation** on ramp: P. Sweriduk gave a recap of the issues discussed at a recent ConCom meeting by Marc Garrett. Options for managing the sand migration onto the ramp were discussed. A. Herlihy discussed the issue from his nearby work station. Sand movement is worse than ever seen before. New road runoff seems to be directing rain water toward undermining the stone jetty. Community Boating is experimenting with directing the road run-off down the ramp to clear the sand temporarily.

- b. Use of the seasonally closed parking lot for paid **storage** will be explored as a means of making the highest and best use of the property. Mr. Melo used the comparison of the Sandwich marina model. This will be explored more thoroughly in the future.

6. Maritime Center:

- a. Mr. Melo announced that the Town's facility maintenance (Tim Lancaster) repaired and reinforced the fresh water line to the Maritime Center floats before the entire facility was winterized by the Town's plumbing contractor. Water service to the building and floats has been winterized to the meter. Service to the street will be done by DPW when staffing allows. The Harbormaster winterized the waste collection equipment and vessel prior to the first hard frost. The dinghy rack has been delivered, but installation must wait until the berm along Water Street is constructed to direct run-off away from the rack area.

- 7. Season wrap-up:** The Harbormaster gave a brief summary of the covid-challenged boating season of 2020. Waterways use was noticeably increased as people sought to get out on the water by all means possible. Mr. Murphy asked if the Department had any expenses to seek reimbursement from national covid relief grants. Mr. Melo said there was nothing that could be rationally related to that program.

- 8.** Mr. Melo announced that an updated, modern website has been posted for the Waterways/Harbormaster Office. It will be easier to use and to keep updated.

- 9.** Mr. Race announced that he will be meeting tomorrow with the interim Development Director Cody Haddad to discuss any prospective funding opportunities available to waterways. Mr. Hickey expressed his thanks to Mr. Gracie and Mr. Gauvin for their dedication of time to this meeting and the waterways issues.

- 10.** The next meeting is scheduled (remotely) by Zoom for 4:00 p.m. on 12/15/2020

- 11.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.