

MINUTES OF THE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday October 4, 2022 - 4:00 p.m. Zoom Remote meeting
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A meeting of the Waterways Management Commission was duly scheduled for Tuesday, October 4, 2022. This meeting was held remotely under the Governor's COVID-19 allowances for public gatherings.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hickey at 4:00 p.m. Present and participating were Commission members: Gerald Hickey, Andy Herlihy, Roger Race, Kevin Murphy, Patricia Sweriduk, and T.J. Salvidio. Harbormaster Melo and Finance Committee Liaison Bob Gauvin were also present.
2. The **minutes** of the prior meeting of 5/24/22 were moved to be accepted as printed by R. Race and seconded by TJ Salvivio, all voted in favor by roll call vote. A. Herlihy requested withdrawal of today's agenda item regarding the combined sewer overflow.
3. **Project Updates:**
 - a) **Harbor Management Plan Implementation Committee (HMPIC):** P. Sweriduk reports that the last meeting of HMPIC was on 9/22. An MVP (municipal vulnerability planning) grant will be re-applied for after meeting with MVP regional coordinator Courtney Rocha. The ongoing water quality project with the Buzzards Bay Coalition (BBC) is getting data processed and analyzed. They are looking for ideas on public outreach for the project. The NEP mini-grant, later listed on agenda, will not be going forward due to a conflict with the ongoing BBC project. She reports that HMPIC submitted support letters favoring the SEC grant applications for the dredging feasibility and economic analysis proposals.
 - b) **Dock permitting subgroup** - P. Sweriduk reports good work toward a consensus on the problems with, and some possible solutions for residential dock permitting. R. Race noted that it is a long term process toward getting a consensus.
 - c) **Economic Analysis Project:** P. Sweriduk explained the purpose and goals for this important component and goal of the harbor management plan. Preliminary work was done by NOAA and presented at the working waterfront conference in Boston this past summer.
 - d) **Oyster shell recycling:** P. Sweriduk and the HMPIC was approached by local residents (Mr. Haley & Mr. Busch) about the possibility of starting a program to recycle oyster shells in Town. It was determined that our restaurants and servers do not put out significant amounts of post consumer empty shells to warrant a program similar to other towns. The used, seasoned shells are used as "culch" to catch oyster larvae for grow out on the harbor floor. This idea was not deemed as feasible at this time.
 - e) HM Melo reports that **2 grants** were submitted on behalf of the Town to the Seaport Economic Council (SEC). **Dredging feasibility study and an economic impact analysis** of the waterway were the 2 subjects. We are currently waiting for a ruling on those requests from SEC.
 - f) **Dias Landing Marina Project:** HM Melo reports the project is entering the permitting phase. A recent email from the Town Planner indicates the project area, The Dias Landing, is in a single residence B (SRB) zone. She indicated that the Town's overlay district for the harbor may not apply to the landing area. HM Melo said he is unsure where that communication is heading, but if needed we will be paying Town Counsel to intervene and resolve between Town entities again.
 - g) **NEP-BBC mini-grant:** withdrawn due to a conflict with the ongoing BBC water quality project.
 - h) **Sustainable Coastal Solutions:** Their CZM-funded report on Apponagansett Point was emailed to all prior to the meeting. It is a lengthy report with many issues identified and best solutions indicated. R. Race believes this report is sufficient to move forward with the advised seawall height. HM Melo believes we are back at square one seeking funds for the seawall repair.
4. **Department Storage Issue:** HM Melo reported that the Waterways Dept. is about to be evicted again, this time from the garages behind the old police station. HM Melo is seeking to find suitable inside storage for Dept. equipment, supplies and gear paid for by public funding. K. Murphy located an empty, available mill space in New Bedford for a reasonable price that the

Waterways Enterprise Fund could afford. K. Murphy said that mill space is popular and time is of the essence. He moved to have the Commission support and endorse this pursuit of the currently available mill space at Wamsutta Mills. TJ Salvidio seconded that motion and noted that HM Melo's communications on this request to the Town have been very professional and accurate. K. Murphy reports that Select Board Chair Tatelbaum asked if the Waterways Commission had voted to support this pursuit in an open meeting? All Commission members voted unanimously to support that motion for Wamsutta Mill storage and send a letter of this support to the Town Administrator and Select Board.

5. **New Bedford Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) and Clark's Cove closures:** Tabled to a later meeting..
6. **Waste Pump Out Boat:** HM Melo described the local pumpout program and his role as the seasonal crew finishes their assistance. He described current issues with the primary pumpout boat and his back-up systems currently in use.
7. **Public Comment:** Mr. Gauvin asked HM Melo what is going on with the old police station garages. He offered to talk to Mr. MacInnes, Town Administrator, in support of the proposed mill storage option to be paid for by waterways.
9. The **next meeting** is set for 11/29/2022 at 4:00 p.m. by zoom/remote.
The meeting was adjourned by unanimous roll call vote at 4:52 p.m.