

Meeting Minutes

Waterways Management Commission

Date: April 23, 2024

Time: 12:00 PM

Meeting called to order by: Roger Race

DCTV Recording of Meeting: <http://75.147.58.17/CablecastPublicSite/show/11633?site=2>

In Attendance

Present: Roger Race, Kevin Murphy, Andrea Langhauser, Dana Dornbusch, TJ Salvidio, Andy Herlihy, Steve Melo. Absent: Patricia Sweriduk, Eli Powell

Approval of minutes

Minutes from the March 13, 2024, meeting were approved with one abstention.

Open Projects

- 1) Dias Landing Marina. Expansion and raising of town pier, addition of dinghy and small boat berthing.
 - a) Bids for construction are due by 4/26/24. Meeting with potential bidders had good participation. The primary concern was the width of the bridge opening.
- 2) Dredge feasibility and scope study (Stage 1) w/ Foth Engineering
 - a) This initial step of a multi-step project is 99% complete.
- 3) Economic Valuation study: FXM Associates, contractor.
 - a) Draft report received and distributed for review.
- 4) Apponagansett Peninsula Feasibility.
 - a) SEC grant awarded. CPC endorsement for matching funds to be presented at the town meeting in June. No further info has been shared.
 - b) Action: Roger to request an update including details on funding sources, project goals, and status of contract award for open feasibility study. .
 - c) Action is with town administrator. Have not received any information on grant application, award letter, or grant deadlines.

Near-Term Future Projects

- 1) Dinghy/Kayak Replacement.
 - a) 6/1/24 is the new SEC grant deadline.
 - b) Action: Kevin to provide final cost info to Roger. Roger to finalize information and submit to Chris Vitale.

- c) Motion to submit Waterways letter of recommendation for SEC grant for replacement of existing dingy racks based on Kevin and Roger's review. Unanimously approved.

Financial update

Waterways Management Enterprise Fund (WMEF) financial update as of 3/31/24.

- a) Balance as of end of March: \$110,000 reflecting initial receipts of user charges for 2024 season.
- b) Issues with the town's online bill pay portal have not been addressed.
- c) Action: Roger to contact Gary Carreiro to see what steps can be taken to resolve issues.

Other Topics

- 1) Change in Town Administrator. Shawn McGinnis has resigned. No updates are available concerning replacement.
- 2) Andy reported on Community boating project. SEC grant is in limbo. Found contractor but waiting to finalize.
- 3) Andrea reported on an upcoming 604b grant proposal, due May 6. Project is to begin water quality planning, including sampling, identification of priorities, and possibly remediation plans consistent with key goals of Padanaram Harbor Management Plan, including bringing back eel grass. Waterways is supportive of general plans. We will review the details at our next meeting with the intention of holding a vote on support for the project.

Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held at noon on May 2, 2024. Meeting was adjourned at 12:48 PM