

Marina Advisory Committee Minutes

August 17, 2021

Present: Joe Aberdale - Chair, Walter Baron, Frederick Felix-Vice-Chair, Martha Wilson, Kevin Coakley, Sam Peper, David Stamatis

Guests: Alfred Pickard, John Wolf, Edward Kane, Ryan Curley, Robert Hussey

Meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm.

Venue: Zoom

Announcements, Open Session and Public Comments

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of July 14, 2021, were approved unanimously on a motion made by Walter and seconded by Martha.

Shellfish Grants Placement and Equipment Regulations Enforcement

There was a review discussion on this item taken up at the July 14, 2021 meeting. Several members stated that tourism is the town's main industry. There will be no positive changes until a plan is made with a balance of boaters and the shellfish grants. John Wolf stated that there is now a moratorium on grant extensions and new grants until December 31, 2021, enacted by the Select Board on August 16, 2021. All agreed that the same problems persist: racks too high, channels need to be better marked, that safety and navigation are very serious issues and that there needs to be a plan developed. Alfred Pickard stated that the lack of shellfish grant enforcement of regulations is a problem. The following motion was made by Kevin and seconded by Martha. *The Marina Advisory Committee requests that the Select Board include members of the Marina Advisory Committee in all future Select Board, committee and board discussions regarding the issues of expansion of shellfish grants and the issuing of additional grant leases including all grants outside of the HDYLTA grant area.* The Motion passed unanimously. All members agreed that this request be placed on the select board agenda for discussion.

Marina Concerns

There is a need for more buoys in the Mayo beach area, including around grants there. Sam, Frederick and Joe stated the need for more hazard buoys especially in the areas that have rocks. Joe shared the following incident with his boat. On August 3, 2021, at 1.5 hours off of high tide he was piloting his boat by Middle Meadow, Great Island, in 6.5 feet of water and struck some rocks. There is damage in the amount of \$16,000. Joe shared his call to the Army Corps of Engineers regarding new buoy placement in the channel. Will agreed to submit a plan to the Corps for approval. Alfred will donate

some buoys and offered assistance in placing them in the channel. Will requested assistance developing this plan and Frederick, David and Kevin will provide assistance. Sam, Frederick, Joe and other members spoke about the need for hazard buoys placed in the harbor where rocks are causing dangerous boating conditions. The following motion was made by Joe and seconded by Sam. Motion passed unanimously.

The Marina Advisory Committee recommends that the harbormaster add additional channel markers to improve safety and navigation in the harbor channel subject to approval by the Army Corps of Engineers Navigation Section, New England Division, and that additional channel boundary markers also be added in Blackfish Creek. In addition, additional buoys be placed as needed marking existing and future grants awarded. In addition, that hazard buoys be placed in harbor locations where there are rocks causing dangerous boating conditions. That the harbormaster implement this plan with assistance provided by the shellfish warden and Committee members David, Kevin and Frederick. That the offer made by Wellfleet Marine Corporation to donate some additional buoys needed be accepted. A plan to be submitted by the harbormaster by December 31, 2021, and to be implemented by May 15, 2022.

Kevin and Dave expressed concerns about running aground by the jetty and the need for more accurate channel markers.

Edward Kane presented his frustration with the finger pier by his boat not being repaired as it is a dangerous safety issue. He stated that he has requested that the harbormaster repair the pier since 2018 and it has not been done. Will stated that it will be repaired in this upcoming fall-winter.

Harbormaster Report

Will stated that monitoring the courtesy dock has been increased. Transient dock business has been busy. Issues with Freedom Boats was discussed. New fuel tanks will be installed this fall or winter. Will stated that he will be talking to the town administrator about the fuel truck contract. Parking issues were discussed and Joe shared some information regarding the Parking Task Force final report and recommendations. Martha requested that Will provide an employee chart to the Committee. Will stated that the September 15th haul out date is needed because of the limited tide influencing dredging time and the time needed to remove the docks.

Dredging Update

Joe stated that the town was awarded a 2.5 million dollar dredging grant. Approval was granted to dredge the area by the fuel dock that was not dredged last fall. Advertising is being done now for potential bidders. The goal is to start dredging Area 1 on October 1, 2021.

New Business and Future Concerns

None

The next meeting will be on September 8, 2021.

A motion to adjourn was made by Martha and seconded by Walter with unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 9:03pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Aberdale