

MEMO TO: THE BOS AND TO PARK AND RECREATION

FROM: Dennis Jason, Harbormaster

DATE: July 23, 2016

Harbor Shack Space

The new harbor office building is somewhat larger than the old building, and it takes up more of the bulkhead lot. Because the new building was no longer grandfathered a handicapped accessible ramp was required (and built) which has limited available space on the lot. When the new building was installed, a space and box for beach gear was also installed. More recently several "Big Belly" garbage pails were installed which, again, limited the space around the Shack and to the east of the utility pole. The Harbor Department and the Shellfish Department share a very small parking area on the S side of the Shack – in a space large enough for two vehicles, as well as equipment belonging to either department. Traditionally the Harbormaster has parked on the N side of the space, directly behind the electrical box and the location for the Pump Out equipment. This gives the Harbormaster a dedicated space so that the HM can come and go when necessary and also respond to any emergency situation, without interference or having to search for a space. The space is located on the N side of the Harbor Shack lot. Unfortunately the addition of the handicapped ramp has limited that parking area. Further, the occupants of the adjoining lot have consistently placed cones, fish totes, and most recently a lobster pot on the "border" of the space to "hem in" the spot.

This morning, when I arrived I misjudged the clearance and slightly damaged the lobster pot which I am informed belongs to Marshall and Katie Carroll's son Brook. This accident has inflamed the already contentious "boundary war." I will pay for the damage or repair the pot myself, but since the Town owns the lots, it is important to resolve this problem before it escalates further.

It is important for Harbor staff – who are acting on the Town's business – and the Shellfish Department to have access to the dock, and to at least two parking spaces on the S side and an unrestricted spot on the N. On occasion Police vehicles or Tri Town ambulance vehicles have used our spaces and we are happy to have them do so. Unfortunately, the northerly space is often compromised by carefully placed gear or vehicles, owned by patrons of Menemsha Texaco who are fueling up, but we can normally edge around the vehicles. It is time for the Town to adjust the bulkhead lot lines so that the Harbor Office has adequate space (please note that the tiny lot is providing space for three different Town departments ) for the actual building and for parking for the Harbormaster and at least one other staff member.

If you have questions or need further information I would be glad to assist, and can help in laying out a more equitable space.

Copy in Shack was signed by Dennis Jason, Harbormaster