

'11 DEC 27 9:30AM

C. May

Pleasant Bay Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2011
4 pm, Brewster Town Hall

Attending: Fran McClennen, Judith Bruce, Allin Thompson, Jane Harris, Chuck Bartlett, Larry Ballantine, Chris Miller, Carole Ridley

Allin called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

1. A motion was made by Judith and Jane to adopt the Minutes of October 11, 2011. The motion passed with Chuck and Fran abstaining because they were not in attendance.

2. The FY13 budget was presented. The draft budget provided level funding for programs and a 1.5% increase for the Coordinator's position. Larry noted that the increase should match town guidelines. Towns have various policies for COLA, but include step and longevity increases. Jane made a motion to increase the Coordinator's compensation by 3% in light of longevity and the lack of increase over the past three years; and to offset that with a reduction in the shoreline assessments budget. The motion was seconded by Larry and voted unanimously.

3. A draft letter to the Harwich Planning Board Chairman regarding the East Harwich Village Center Handbook zoning proposals was discussed. Carole reported that the Steering Committee had briefly discussed the matter on October 11th, and referred the matter to the watershed work group for further discussion. The letter was drafted based on the discussions at the Steering Committee and watershed work group level. The draft letter had been circulated to the participants of the watershed work group meeting to make sure it was an accurate reflection of the conversation. Chuck suggested that a paragraph be added to reflect the Alliance's process of review. Jane cited the importance of the fact that the Alliance had commented on a similar proposal in Brewster. Larry and Allin indicated that they would not vote due to their involvement in the process. Jane moved approval of the letter with the addition suggested by Chuck. Judith seconded the motion. The vote was in support of the motion. Larry and Allin recused themselves.

4. Carole provided an update on the Muddy Creek project. A proposal is awaited from Applied Coastal to conduct additional modeling work: 1) adjust the pile bent design to match the 24 ft opening, and 2) conduct scour analysis. Funding for the analysis is uncertain, and some of it may need to come from Harwich and Chatham. Carole also discussed construction financing with Jeremy Bell and Martha Rheinhardt. There are grants available, but they would require final design, and significant resources to pursue. Larry suggested that if a request is made of the towns for funds it should include all that would be needed to finalize design and pursue the grants.

5. Discussions are progressing regarding the improvement dredging paper. So far meetings have been held with Chatham Conservation Commission, Chatham Waterways Committee, Chatham Shellfish Advisory Committee and Orleans Waterways

Improvement and Shellfish Advisory Committee. So far there has been general acceptance of the concept, and some suggestions for refining the language. Carole has checked in with Lealdon Langley and it appears the state is planning to pursue a regulation change although no language has been provided. A draft warrant article for an amendment to the resource management plan would be submitted by January or February, with presentations to Selectmen around that time.

6. Carole circulated draft boat ramp permit regulations submitted by Tom Leach. The regulations would require a beach, transfer station, or mooring permit or tax payer status to park at Round Cove. The regulation is in response to increased demand during the bass fishing season and the new permit system in place at Ryder's Cove. It was noted that other locations are also feeling the pressure and may need to go to a permit system.

7. The coastal resource guide is nearing completion. Greg Berman has offered assistance with layout and design and a budget for printing will be developed.

8. The proposal for purchase of the McClennen land on Pleasant Bay is under discussion among the towns. The 3.5 acres has four houses on it. Redevelopment of the land could yield 22 bedrooms. Fran noted that the trust is finalizing its review of the proposal. Carole noted that she had been contacted by Mark Robinson over the summer, and indicated that the Alliance would be interested in reviewing a proposal for use of the property once a plan is put together. She also noted that the proposal has been discussed in recent public meetings such as the Harwich Conservation Trust annual meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm

Submitted by:

Alvin P. Thompson

Date:

Dec 13, 2011