

Town of Wareham

Marine Resources Commission

Meeting date: December 10, 2014

Attendees: Don Jepson, Warren Hall, Trenton Blanchard, Jim Smith, Dick Wheeler, Gary Buckminster

The meeting opened at 7:00PM

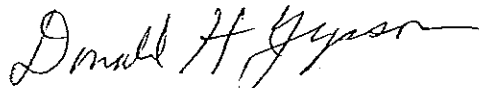
The meeting notes from the October meeting were read and approved. No formal meeting was held in November because the agenda was submitted on the day before Veterans Day and holidays do not count towards the 48 hour advance agenda posting requirement necessary to hold an official meeting.

No discussion regarding the updating of Harbor Management Plan was conducted because Larry Bearse, who is studying the existing plan to offer suggestions as to how we may streamline the update, was unable to attend due to a problem with his back. Larry did, however, forward his thoughts on the subject of dredging. The two page submission that Larry submitted was reviewed by the MRC members and they agreed with Larry's approach. Subsequent to that discussion harbormaster Garry Buckminster arrived and was given a copy of what Larry had submitted. The essence of the agreed to approach is that the Harbormaster's Office should take the lead in starting the process again by identifying the channel areas that need to be dredged to include specific benchmarks as to depth and location. The plan should also include where the dredging spoils can be deposited to best benefit the Town. Key to the plan is input and support from the marinas, boatyards, restaurants, citizens, etc. to buy in to sell the proposal. The plan would have to be developed and brought to MRC so it could then review and advise the selectmen regarding the plan prior to it being submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers. Upon reviewing the approach agreed to by the MRC members, Garry indicated that among his priorities, dredging would take a low priority due to the more pressing issue of repairs required at the Onset Pier. Garry voiced some frustration with the Onset Pier engineering study that was just completed and indicated that implimentation engineering would be required and there would be increases in construction cost estimates, some due to prevailing wage rate requirements.

Trenton Blanchard reviewed with those present the suggested clarifications that he and Jim Smith felt were advisable in the first 15 pages (sections 2B through 2H) of the proposed Waterways Bylaws. The Harbormaster will take these suggestions into consideration. With recognition that the Spring Town Meeting is fast approaching, the Harbormaster was asked if he planned to bring the proposed Waterways Bylaws before the Spring Town Meeting. Garry responded that his intent is to bring the Proposed Waterways Bylaws to the Fall Town meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

I attest these are the true MRC minutes of the meeting held December 10, 2014.



Donald H. Jepson, Chairman

Please cc: Board of Selectmen, Harbormaster Office.

A TRUE COPY
ATTEST


TOWN CLERK

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