

Waterways Committee Meeting February 5, 2020, 7:00pm

Members Present: Mike Kinney (V. Chair), Chuck Eastman, Joe Voci, Kevin King, Gregg Fraser

Members Not-Present: Jeff Thomas (Chair), Dan Shearer, Chuck Martinsen.

Guests Present: Doug Brown, Chris Dunn, John Eldert, Lisa Cavanaugh, Richard Libin, Steve Minaudo, Alison Ferrante, Linda Carpenter and Brad Cole.

Call to order: Quorum present meeting was called to order at 7:00pm

Minutes of December 4, 2019:

MOTION: J Voci, 2nd C Eastman to accept the minutes of December 4, 2019 with the following amendments, change page 2 M Kinney “if” to “if asked”. Seconded, Approved.

Approved as amended Unanimously Voted

Public Comments

Megansett Harbor Dredging Discussion – Alison Ferrante, asked to bring the need for dredging in Megansett Harbor. She states the boat ramp is heavily used; 180 Yacht club members are open to improving Megansett. Mooring field entrance now has 2 buoys to assist boaters. (private aids have been there for several years) She provided pictures of public beach side, with sand build up. Mike Kinney stated dredging sand that is exposed (above MHW) is problematic. Steven Otto, maneuvering channel is challenging, suggest widen Squeteague channel. Linda Carpenter of Bourne suggests both Bourne and Falmouth need to work together to widen Squeteague channel. Gregg Fraser has reached out to town of Bourne regarding this issue in the past and hasn't gotten a positive response. Gregg Fraser explained that town dredging is concentrated on the areas with the most need. Money and permitting to have area surveyed and report would be the 1st step in a long process. No permit currently exists for dredging in Megansett.

Mike Kinney, mentioned in the past, adding private funding can help to get the process started and navigational dredging is an easier process than improvement dredging. Questions of when the last time this harbor was dredged came up, all agreed it may have been in the 1950's. Squeteague harbor in the 20's. Gregg Fraser stated exposed sand is extremely difficult to remove because it is considered non maintenance dredging. He suggested the people seeking dredging identify the areas to be dredged and to ascertain whether the areas were maintenance or improvement dredging. The State may have historical records of dredging done by them in the past.

Eel River Hydrodynamic Study Funding request update- Gregg Fraser was quoted \$60,000.00 by Wood Hold Group for the study. State Representative Dave Viera's office will seek funding as an amendment to the state budget. If the funding is approved the town will develop a scope of services and seek competitive bids. Process could take up to 6 months after choosing a contractor. Lisa Cavanaugh stated Jennifer of conservation is working with her on a study for beach nourishment.

Waquoit Bay Dredge permitting cost update- Leslie Fields of Woods Hole Group is recommending doing it in 2 phases. Phase I field evaluations would be \$64,000. Phase II permitting would be \$50,000 to \$125,000. (Dependent on the level of permitting needed, MEPA, EIR, Etc.) Chris Dunn of WB Yacht Club suggest removing sediment in layers. A new study is needed for updated core samples and eel grass placement which could eliminate past reports. May be beneficial to use non hydraulic dredging. Chris Dunn spoke of dredging commercially; GF may be up to 3 times more expensive than the county dredge.

2019-2020 Winter Dredging Update-G. Fraser, Winter dredge is coming to a close. Eel River and Half to Falmouth Harbor done. G Fraser has issued a request to survey the inlets April/early May. G Fraser noted the town may not be able to get any additional TOY waivers given a waiver was issued by DEP to finish the dredging at Eel River Extension.

Member Comments: K King to meet with G. Fraser to finish up the waterways packet by June and once approved by the committee it will be posted on the web site.

Move to adjourn 8:00 pm

Next Meeting date March 4, 2020

Respectfully submitted by Paula Cushman