

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN

HARBOR COMMITTEE

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Minutes of April 17, 2001 – Judge Welsh Room – Town Hall

Members present: Al Davis, Rex McKinsey, Carla Anderson, Chad Delima (Marine Superintendent).

Members absent (excused): Sheila LaMontagne, Mel Cote, Joyce Guide.

Carla Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Al Davis moved to accept the minutes of the 3/21/01 meeting. Rex McKinsey seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The committee reviewed the Town Landing update distributed at the 3/21/01 meeting and discussed the best format for presenting this information as the Harbor Plan update. Carla conveyed Joyce's request to have some consistency between the existing Plan's format and the update. Al commented that he liked the table format that allowed room for comments / prioritization. Rex moved to accept the Town Landing List of Recommendations (with minor modifications) as the 2001 Harbor Committee Update to the Provincetown Harbor Plan, Section V, Land Use Recommendations. Al seconded. Motion passed 3-0. Carla Agreed to make the format changes before the next meeting.

Having decided on the overall list of beach and landing improvements, Carla asked each person to name three items / activities they felt were most important. Each member expressed concern about the same 3 items – storm drain outfall pipes, West End boat ramp, and a comprehensive signage program. Chad agreed with these concerns as well.

Further discussion of the West End boat ramp and improvements needed revealed both immediate and long-term considerations. For this season, the committee agreed to:

- 1] Send a memo to David Guertin of DPW requesting bulldozer maintenance of the ramp approach and relocate the sand for beach nourishment at the site. Carla will write and send the memo. Al moved, Rex seconded. Motion passed 3-0.
- 2] Install two of the modular dock sections on anchors and mooring blocks parallel to the ramp for assistance in launching and as a dinghy dock. Chad, Al and Rex agreed to locate the required tackle and hardware for the installation, which will occur after the Marine Dept. vessel is launched for the season.

Rex suggested that the existing dinghy dock in use on MacMillan Pier might be moved to the West End ramp upon completion of the pier, allowing a gangway, pilings, floats, etc. at the only launching facility in town. The committee agreed by discussion to create a plan in a timely manner so that AGM might be utilized to do the work before leaving the harbor in 24 months.

The committee received a memo update from Carla summarizing the myriad of discussions between committee members and staff regarding the changes in dinghy dock space during the construction period. A copy of the memo is attached to these minutes. The Marine Dept. will let the committee know what signage will be required at three locations (East side seasonal use, Whydah building transient use, West End ramp, assorted use) prior to season. The committee also discussed the Marine Dept. sending a letter to all mooring holders informing them of these and other changes during the construction period.

After discussing use of the Whydah building Chapter 91 special conditions and the use of one float space for transient dinghy tie-up, the committee asked Chad to explore installing two modular dock sections at that location to accommodate more dinghies and to facilitate use by the "commercial" dinghy dock permit holders. Chad agreed, but said it would be difficult to know what is required until the property owner installs their docks later this month. Carla suggested that instead of sending an enforcement request to DEP seeking better compliance from this property owner, that we might ask the property owner to send us a memo seeking guidance on how best to comply. We, as a committee, could then respond directly with recommendations and suggest the new dock master at PYM work with Chad in implementing the changes. Carla, as Chapter 91 liaison, agreed to contact Kevin Matthews, COO at Boston Harbor Cruises.

Chad reported that the Marine Dept. vessel has not yet been launched for the season. He was told the boat would go in on or about 4/6/01. He has not received a more recent update from Bay Sails Marine in Wellfleet where the boat is stored.

Rex and Carla updated the committee on the proposals to Americorp for Service Days. Each application has been sent and a memo to DPW requesting cost analysis for each project has also been sent.

Al updated the committee on the Marine Superintendent interviews that took place earlier this month. He supplied copies of five résumés and said there were three wonderfully qualified applicants. He thought the Police Chief made an excellent choice with former assistant harbormaster Chad Delima who is most familiar with our harbor and the large projects taking place along the waterfront.

Al asked for clarification on how the Barnstable County Dredge is being paid for their work along the East Side of the pier. He reported that the transfer of sand seemed to include a large ratio of water to sand. Carla explained that Joyce could provide the most accurate answer, but she thought they were paid by the cubic yard, not by the day or hour.

Carla brought to the attention of the committee a Town Meeting article that authorized \$8500 to be spent under the direction of the Parking Administrator for improvements to the Johnson St. Parking Lot. The committee agreed to ask Joyce, as chairperson, to speak with Don Richards and make sure the HC is kept in the loop regarding these changes to Town Landing areas, as per the Harbor Plan.

The committee was asked by the Building Committee to consider the benefits of hiring a pier liaison to assist both DPW and the Marine Dept. during the pier reconstruction. The position was initially proposed by DPW as an information coordinator. The Harbor Committee agreed by discussion that such a person could be very helpful, especially during the busy summer season. Rex expressed concerns about crowd control – both vehicular and pedestrian. Chad expressed problems with communications between AGM and his department, stating that he was totally unaware one morning when pilings were delivered and Lopes Square had to be closed for over an hour. The committee asked Rex to convey suggestions to the Building Committee. Suggestions for the position include communication between all departments, contractors, users groups, etc. Assisting the Marine Dept. in creating a plan for dealing with heavy use times and with traffic control. Providing accurate information to pier users and limiting the number of non-authorized vehicles and personnel in construction areas. Providing timely and accurate information to the media. Consensus was SAFETY is of utmost importance.

The committee discussed the installation of 4 storm drain upgrades in conjunction with the Pier reconstruction. All members were pleased at this significant accomplishment and reiterated their commitment to get all other storm drain outfall pipes upgraded in a timely manner.

Al moved to send a memo to DEP asserting the Harbor Committees' authority to interpret the Historic High Water mark, by 2 feet seaward, in reviewing the amnesty application. After discussion Al withdrew the motion and will present a reworded motion at the next meeting.

Rex presented a memo for circulation to several Town Departments and Committees requesting their input on our forthcoming signage program for the landings and beaches. Carla moved that Rex complete and distributes the memo. Al seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Carla reported that she found a box of refill bags for the poop scoop boxes in the basement of Town Hall, and she has acquired a copy of the key to the boxes, and she was able to recruit a volunteer to assist in filling the boxes. She reported that since the boxes have been allowed to remain empty for an extended time that well-intentioned persons have started hanging plastic grocery bags on the posts. The unfortunate result in high winds is that additional debris may be scattered along the beach and into harbor waters.

She asked the committee to commit funds from the HAGF to pay for additional refills until another funding source can be found. Possible funding sources discussed were VSB Beautification, Private donation or Company imprinting, Animal Control Dept. Al asked if Joyce might speak with the Animal Control Dept. to see if funds from the dog licenses can be used, as there are boxes in locations away from the beach. Rex moved to spend up to \$200 from the HAGF to purchase refill bags while other funding sources are explored. Al seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

The date and time of the next meeting of the Provincetown Harbor Committee was set May 1, 2001 at 5:30 PM.

Al moved to adjourn. Rex seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.