

Harbor Committee Minutes

December 3, 2003

4:30 p.m.

Members Present: Kerry Adams, Acting Chair; Heather Bruce; Melville Cote; Beverly Dwyer Ormston,
Members Absent: Gerard Irmer (Chairman) and Laura Shabot
Advisory Staff: none
Harbor Master: Chris Flavell
Pier Manager: Rex McKinsey

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m.

AGENDA

Review and approve minutes of November 19, 2003 meeting

There was a great deal of discussion and many minor changes to the minutes and finally a motion was made.

Motion: Beverly Dwyer Ormston made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Heather Bruce seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

New Business:

Discussion with Banner reporter concerning Harbor Plan Update

Per 301 CMR 23.00

This agenda item was put under the Public Statement portion. Kerry Adams introduced Sally Rose, the reporter from The Banner, to the group and thanked her for her attendance at the meeting. It was explained to Sally that the Committee is engaged in a scheduled 5 year renewal of the Harbor Plan which expires this spring. Chris Flavell said that the Committee had invited her to the meeting to ask her to publicize the Harbor Plan Public Hearing which is definitely planned for **January 7th**. Sally wondered what the changes will be. After a great deal of informational conversation, it was decided that the sub groups would have their reports ready for Sally by mid December and the reports would detail any proposed changes.

At that point – after Sally has had an opportunity to digest the reports – she promised to write a feature article meant to stir interest in the changes proposed and in the Public Hearing. The tone of the article would be to encourage input from “John Q. Public.”

Sally took down a list of members’ phone numbers and will probably call the sub-committees to find out more information about the aims of the different sub-groups. Ms. Rose gave the group her e-mail and fax number: srose@provincetownbanner.com 7144 is her fax number.

Beverly suggested asking people (in the article that Sally’s going to write) for their opinions in letter form if they were unable to attend the Public Hearing. Input from the public is really wanted.

Member Statements

This was mainly a general discussion on how best to revise the plan. The suggestion that seemed to win the most approval called for concentrating on Chapter 5 and not trying to address each “nitty-gritty” subject through-out the plan. It was decided that if a boat ramp was not going to be considered i.e., the Johnson Street ramp, then only one mention would be made of the decision to not have it. It would not be necessary – as some members felt – to go through the entire plan and delete each and every reference to it.

Chris Flavell, too, suggested concentrating on Chapter 5 and making the changes very clear. He also wondered about

the feasibility of asking the Coast Zone Management (CZM) for a time extension to afford enough opportunity to complete the revised Harbor Plan.

Carla Anderson, a member of the public and former Harbor Committee member, suggested the group look at the way the ZBA makes the changes and mimic them. Create changes as an addendum to the main document and then if you get a piece of it shot down, it's easier to get the remaining document passed.

Chris Flavell said, "Let's not get hung up on the small stuff. Try looking at the whole picture."

There should be much discussion re: Chapter 91 i.e., what the state wants and what the town wants. Beverly worried about the quality of the harbor water. She was assured that there will be testing done by the Center for Coastal Studies.

Rex also gave an example of one of the changes, "You can simply say that the Scofield line has no real basis – and you would like to go back to the 1939 high tide line."

It was also suggested that the meeting with the Board of Selectmen (BoS) on December 28th might be a good time to give them a rough draft of the Harbor Plan. Chris said the BoS is just looking for a progress report. Beverly said that basically we will get reports from sub-committees and funnel them through Kerry onto Sally.

Chris said he needs to get stuff to Greta Holman at the latest on Dec. 17th. Land facilities and water use and mention a few of the things we've been discussing (a brief summary). Leave it as simple as possible i.e., elimination of Johnson St parking lot and a mention of Chapter 91. Beverly agreed that Chapter 91 is important and the Committee needs to get everyone involved.

The group decided to schedule meetings on December 10th and 17th. They project having all the proposed changes completed by the meeting on December 17th.

Heather Bruce said that on the 10th we should be discussing the key points that we need to focus on.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Gaudiano

Evelyn Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by _____ on _____, 2003.
Kerry Adams, Acting Chairman