



Harbor Committee

Public Meeting

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

Provincetown Town Hall
Caucus Hall Meeting Room
260 Commercial Street

Draft Minutes

I. Call to Order at 5pm

Members present: David Flattery, Elise Cozzi, John Santos, Susan Avellar, Bryan Legare, Laura Ludwig; Rex McKinsey, staff; Lory Santos, member of the public / Chair of the Shellfish Committee.

II. Review/amend/approve minutes

Elise moved to accept the minutes from the Work Session 6/13/18, the Public Hearing 6/25/18, and the Public Meeting on 9/12/18 as written. Grassy seconded and all were in favor.

III. Public Statements

Lory read a statement expressing concern about large commercial vessels throwing wakes upon entering the harbor, creating safety hazards to users of the harbor starting at the bell buoy all the way to the breakwater. David suggested we add this item to our list of priorities for the committee this winter. Speaking as the chair of the Shellfish Committee, she presented suggestions for marking shellfish aquaculture areas with yellow marker buoys.

IV. Harbormaster Report – incorporated into other sections of the meeting.

V. Old Business:

Many of the committee members attended the CZM public hearing last week. David would like to clarify the committee's position on the Sailing For All Provincetown proposal and submit a statement to CZM as part of the public hearing process. David asked the committee's consultant at UHI to draft a letter representing our position of supporting access to all persons but respecting the harbor plan process. Susan pointed out that this committee has never been approached for a specific project before (Provincetown Marina, Flyer's expanded facility, or other Ch. 91 permit fulfillment efforts, e.g.) and that it is not the role of the committee or the harbor plan to recommend specific proposals. Elise moved that

the Harbor Committee submit a statement. John seconded. Discussion ensued and the draft was amended. Laura moved to submit the amended statement. John seconded and all were in favor.

VI. New Business:

Shark activity – Rex reported that since last week's shark attack fatality at Newcomb Hollow there has been heightened discussion Cape-wide as to how to handle the shark activity. Much work has been undertaken over the last five years by public officials on this issue. Shark detection buoys and shark tagging has been underway for 9 years; and research effort has increased. Town managers, shark conservancy folks, Park Service personnel and others are meeting in two weeks to discuss options such as posting life guards on town beaches or engaging in other proactive efforts. John suggested it may be time to discuss culling seals to reduce the threat of shark activity. Bryan discussed the history of seal management regulations and the ecology of the seals in our area, recommending that the science be robust when making regulatory decisions. David agrees that this committee should discuss this further and make a recommendation to the Select Board soon. There was animated discussion, and Susan recommended refining what the concerns are (fishing, safety, MMPA, etc.). Susan will ask someone from the town who attends the shark meetings to report back to our committee for discussion purposes.

Signage -- this committee is planning to spearhead informational signage at town landings, the breakwater, boat launches, and other locations. David shared a sample of a sign format. Rex said the existing signs are 10 years old and need updating. Laura suggested a grid format to isolate each topic. We can solicit ideas from graphic designers. John suggested a smaller sign at the landings w/ a brochure available detailing each item. The brochures could double as harbor brochures and handouts at the Chamber etc. Topics that need to be addressed include:

- Markers -- Aquaculture areas, speed restrictions, swimming, groins
- Human waste -- No smoking on town beaches; plastic pollution; beach cleanups
- Pets -- waste; leash law; bags do not degrade/compost
- Natural hazards -- tides, sharks, seals, weather, lightning, wind, etc.

Beach Cleaning program -- Laura reported that the Center for Coastal Studies organized a cleanup on 9/15. Volunteers cleared Long Point and Wood End. Debris from Wood End will be recovered this coming Saturday using skiffs (David and Ricky Macara & the harbormaster's) in the West end. Another cleanup on town beaches will be conducted 9/23.

VII. Adjourn

Bryan moved to adjourn; John seconded and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:24pm.

Next HC meeting:

Next tentatively scheduled meeting on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 5:00pm in Town Hall if needed.