



Harbor Committee

Public Meeting

Wednesday, January 8, 2020
Provincetown Town Hall, Caucus Hall Meeting Room
260 Commercial Street

Minutes

I. Meeting Called to Order @ 5pm

Members present: Laura Ludwig, Elise Cozzi, Susan Avellar (acting chair), Wendy Loughlin, John Santos (via speaker phone); David Flattery, excused. Rex McKinsey, Don German, Steve Wisbauer, Town Staff. Lise King, Select Board rep. Carlos Verde, PPPC rep. Stephanie Ellis, Wild Care Director. Lory Francis, Shellfish Committee (via speaker phone).

II. Review/amend/approve minutes

Elise moved to accept the minutes for December 18, 2020, as written; Susan seconded and all were in favor (4-0-0).

III. Public Statements

Lory Santos reported that the Shellfish Committee voted 4-0-1 (Flattery abst.) to request Harbor Access Gift Funds (HAGF) not to exceed \$20k to purchase an amphibious vehicle to support harbor, fire & rescue efforts. She read a report in support of this request outlining various scenarios where such a vehicle would have been an asset to the community. She will forward the report to Rex for the record.

Stephanie Ellis introduced the "Trash Your Tackle" initiative which Wild Care is working on to respond to the various cases of wildlife entanglement in monofilament fishing gear. She brought a sample container built from PVC. Units were installed in Chatham in Sept 2019. Monofilament is collected, documented and shipped for recycling. She would like to bring the campaign to Provincetown and has interest from Eastham as well. There is a lot of opportunity for education, volunteer involvement and habitat improvement. Susan suggested we add this topic to our next agenda and to share the information with PPPC for their consideration. Four possible locations the town might consider are the pier, West end boat ramp, the breakwater, courtesy float. Lise requested more information on the outreach plan.

IV. Marine Department Updates: (R. McKinsey)

Chapter 91 project – Jim Vincent is at an impasse due to the amount of work that would likely be generated by the letter to homeowners. The suggestion is to get state funding for a contract position to handle the process. Town Meeting will also provide a forum for introducing the effort.

Washington Ave. landing – all the engineering calculations are complete and installation of the boundary markers should be completed this week. Abutters have been amenable to the process. Susan suggested that eventually all boundary markers along the water frontage be re-established. Carlos pointed out that some of this work has been done because any time real estate next to Town Landings changes hands or is renovated those lines are assessed at that time. However, markers are not installed so the public isn't necessarily aware of the bounds.

Groynes repairs east end – tides are favorable next week with big tides in the morning so the contractor is poised to do the work if weather allows. Jimmy Silva will do the work. The sentinel markers will be re-stood to mark the groynes.

Landing signs package – the conversation continues; Steve and Rex are working on it.

Rex has the details regarding the Rec Dept's CPC request for funding for 387 Commercial (waterfront park). Elise moved that the committee charge Rex to write the letter in support of this request; Wendy seconded. A roll-call vote was taken and all were in favor.

Oceanside Condo Assoc, 945 Comm St, submitted a letter to Rex regarding issues the association is having regarding public access, asking the town to provide access using a "paper road" (Cleveland Ave). The requisite surveys and infrastructure alterations will be costly for the town and require Conservation Commission approval at the minimum. Rex suggested to the Association they come forward with a citizen's petition and see what Town Meeting says. John suggested we turn the request over to the Cons Comm. Susan asked Rex to get more information from the assessor's office.

CCS is applying to Mass Environmental Trust for funding to study grey seal haulouts and requested a letter of support from the town. Elise moved that Rex send a letter of support. Wendy seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Elise, Wendy, John and Susan were in favor (Laura works at CCS and abstained).

V. New Business:

Steve reviewed the shellfish committee's request for HAGF for an amphibious vehicle for rescues/shellfish support. It's been discussed for several years as situations have arisen – aquaculture flats assistance, rescue response, access facilitation. The vehicle would be for town use as needed. Steve distributed the letter from the Shellfish Committee outlining a few details of the specs and the virtues of the vehicle. Susan recommended they get support from the town's fire chief and rescue squad. Lise suggested looking into an electric version. Carlos said the town had looked into a number of these types of vehicles in the past and they all failed the field tests. Steve is working with Michael Shute in the selection process. Susan reminded us that we purchased a beach cleanup vehicle that has been put into good service. Lise said that if the vehicle would serve as a rescue or response vehicle during climate-

caused disasters like the floods of 2018, the purchase might be assisted by additional grant funding.

VI. Old Business:

Comments on Harbormaster job description were addressed to Carlos. Elise asked about the duty listed related to grant proposal writing. Rex said that each dept goes looking for grants and the Harbormaster would work with other staff on that. Elise noted that the same duty should be listed in the "3rd bucket" job description, if that was the case.

Lise asked about the duties listed and whether an understanding of climate impacts and increased emergency response should be itemized. Rex pointed out that all marine staff are part of the town's emergency response team.

John brought up the reporting structure involved with the shellfish constable and HM, which is as yet unclear. Laura suggested that grants admin and accounts payable/receivable should not be the responsibility of the HM; Carlos agreed that collection of mooring fees ought to be done by the town. Under state law, the HM receives mooring applications; however, the renewal can take place administratively. Rex noted additional training that is important to list.

Susan suggested that other criteria which need to be included are that the HM work collaboratively with the Harbor Committee and other town staff in support of the Harbor Plan.

Discussion of Municipal Harbor Management Plan Suggested Responsibilities document (Acting HM D. German) will be discussed at the next meeting.

VII. Laura moved to adjourn. Elise seconded and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm. Next meeting will be the Public Hearing on January 22, 2020.