

Town of Falmouth Massachusetts
Waterways Committee Meeting - Minutes
Wednesday June 7, 2023

Members present: Jeff Thomas - Chairman, Kevin King Vice Chairman, Mike Kinney, Joe Voci, Dan Shearer and Doug Brown

Members not present: Chuck Martinsen, Chuck Eastman and Gregg Fraser.

Guests: Alida Pellegrini-Toole, Alison Ferrante, NV, Bob Armstrong, Lisa Cavanaugh, David Crane, Mimi Gregory, Bob Watson, Carl Kammerer, Debbie Scott, Jack Roth, Mark McAdams, Matt Quinn, Michele Scaife, Molly Kammerer – MSA, RF L, Spencer Dufton, Colleen Kyrios – MSA and Gene Crowley.

Public Comments: Molly Kammerer to present a power point on dinghy docks and out haul later in meeting. Megansett harbor members, Alida Pellegrini-Toole and Michele Scaife voice their concerns of water quality and the depth of Megansett Harbor channel.

Review and approve minutes of May 3, 2023

MOTION by Mike Kinney, 2nd Dan Shearer, to approve minutes as printed. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

Harbormaster's Update June 7, 2023

Comp permit Update: ACOE's public comment period ended 5/25/22. We have reached out to them to see if they any questions answered, no response. Also note, the Mass Division of Marine Fisheries sent a recommendation letter (arrived late) to the ACOE's. The TOY requested were different from the ones they recommended to the DEP for the state permit. We have requested an explanation as to why from DMF.

- TOY Dredge waiver request to DMF, they cannot act on the request until the ACOE's issues their permit. Also, DMF now opposes all TOY waivers to dredge in June to protect the horseshoe crab spawning areas. Therefore, unless those changes take place no dredging will happen at Green and Great Ponds until fall/winter.
- Local aids to navigation repositioned to help boaters in the Great Pond channel. Reports received narrowed channel but still have 3.5' at MLW.
- New floats installed for the Charter Boats
- Met with Bourne Harbormaster and Shore and Harbors Committee Chair to discuss MSA Megansett dredging proposal.
- Met with Town Manager & Attorney to discuss MSA Megansett dredging proposal.
- New floats installed at Wild Harbor; a few minor items need to be finished to complete the project. Recommend lime limit of 30 Transient, no docking 11pm to 4am
- Simpson's Landing: NOI @ ComCom 6/7/23, State application number SE 025-4860
- Great Harbor Boat Ramp: NOI @ Comcom 6/14/23 State application number SE 025-4862
- Town electrician is concerned with the huge increase in cost for GFI breakers. (New electrical code requirements) He will get us information for budgeting purposes and discuss it with the new electrical inspector. Likely will have to request funding in the capital budget for Nov.
- New Dinghy regulation, brought up last year, by Matt Quinn, in the select board meeting in August. Limits time frames and size of dinghies. Matt Quinn asked if buckets or life jackets can be

used to cover props to protect other boats. G Fraser – this method would not be discouraged by the town; the Harbormaster’s office will not penalize anyone for using this method.

- J. Thomas – The dingy regulations were posted on the website and in The Enterprise. A. Pellegrini-Toole and M. Kammerer ask if posting or emails can be sent. The Harbormasters office will send emails to the mooring holders in those harbors. K King is there someone else we can contact from the ACOE to move our permits through? J. Thomas suggest Bill Keatings office. D. Brown – ACOE has delayed other town projects, will ask Peter Johnson-Staub if there is anyone we can reach out to.

- Wild Harbor - Adopt time restrictions for docking on new floats 231-3G
Photos of the new floats in Wild Harbor.

<https://www.falmouthma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14674/Wild-Harbor-Floats-New-2023>

<https://www.falmouthma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14675/Wild-Harbor-Floats-2-New-2023>

<https://www.falmouthma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14676/Wild-Harbor-Floats-3-New-2023>

Committee to Adopt dingy time restrictions. Vote; M Kinney Approved Dan Shearer to second.

Committee UNANIMOUSLY VOTED and APPROVED new regulations.

- Megansett Squeteague Association (MSA) Presentation to Falmouth Waterways Committee
<https://www.falmouthma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14672/202306-Presentation-to-FWC---FINAL>

Lisa Cavanaugh – Are there any updates on the Eel River project? J. Thomas – We are waiting for funding for the alternate channel and the overall priority list must be complete. L. Cavanaugh – Can we open the conversation up about a recommended course of action such as changing the channel or cutting the tip of Washburn Island? J Voci – We can discuss that matter. J Thomas – We can put a line item to discuss that project next month.

- **Committee Election/Reorganization for FY2024**

Jeff Thomas (Chairman) and Dan Shearer (Committee Member) have 9 years with the committee. Both are time limited. Their chairs are open; resumes are being accepted.

New Chairman and New Vice Chairman, terms start July 1, 2023.

Election for Chairman – K. King nominates Joe Voci, M Kinney 2nd's.

Committee unanimously elects Joe Voci as Chairman.

Election for Vice Chairman – M Kinney Nominates Kevin King, J Voci 2nd's.

Committee unanimously elects Kevin King as Vice Chairman.

Dan Shearer give thanks to the committee. M. Kinney thanks Jeff Thomas for his efforts through Covid. K King has been listening for 22 years and adds Jeff Thomas has been the best Chairman.

D Shearer – W Falmouth harbor is in bad shape. The last storm brought in more sand. As of this morning there were 42 boats on the dinghy dock. Lots of Whalers take up room on docks. Would like to post the dinghy regulations. M Kammerer – MH has an area to post dinghy regulations.

Member Comments The application for new board members was due last Friday, this may have been extended if no applicants were received. The committee, along with Doug Brown, gives thanks to both Jeff Thomas and Dan Shearer for their service to the Waterways Committee.

Next meeting date – TBD July 2023

MOTION TO AJOUN: D. Shearer, M. Kinney 2nd, at 20:18

Respectfully Submitted, By Paula Cushman