

Minutes of the  
Town of Gosnold  
Harbor Management Committee  
April 13, 2023

**Item 1. (Call to Order/Minutes)** A hybrid meeting of the Town of Gosnold Harbor Management Committee via Zoom teleconference and in person at Town Hall on Cuttyhunk Island was called to order at 10:34am. Present were Harbor Committee Members Ralph Cataldo, Paula DiMare, Seth Garfield, Lexi Lynch, Leo Pierre Roy, and Lisa Wright, representing a quorum of the Committee. Also present for portions of the meeting were Mooring Collector/Assistant Harbormaster Dale Lynch, Selectboard Member Gail Blout, Seymour DiMare, Tally Garfield, Rosemary Goettsche, Philip Houha, David Jenkins, Paul Lehner, Charlie Lovell, Duane Lynch, Carlyn Nunes, Sean Uiterwyk, Bonnie Veeder, Kim Wiggins, and Nancy Wilder. Chairman Roy confirmed that the Committee members could hear the discussion and be heard.

Paula DiMare moved acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of March 10, 2023 as written and distributed. The motion was seconded by Lisa Wright.

Seth Garfield asked if this was an appropriate time to bring up his concern about a possible conflict of interest by Lexi Lynch at our last meeting, who voted to approve the design of the new shack on the Fuel Dock, since she and Duane Lynch will be the tenants for the fuel concession. He said that he was uncomfortable with her voting on the issue in which she had a direct interest. Chairman Roy replied that the bids for the Fuel Dock concession were not due until March 15, five days after our meeting, and that Ms. Lynch was not a bidder for the fuel concession at the time of her vote, so he saw no conflict. Mr. Garfield said that she must have been planning to bid on it at that time. Mr. Roy said that we are a very small town with a limited number of civic-minded people willing to do the jobs necessary to run the Town, so we are all managing potential conflicts all the time. He said that he did not see this as a financial conflict of interest, as the tenant will be occupying whatever building the Town builds. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

**Item 2. (Fuel Dock/Farm Update)** Mr. Roy reported that only one bid was received for the Fuel Dock concession from Duane and Lexi Lynch. He said that he was working with Town Counsel Dan Perry to draft a lease based on the guidelines approved by the Committee and the Selectboard. He said that once the agreement was negotiated with the Lynches it would go to the Selectboard for their approval and signature. He asked Selectboard Member Gail Blout for an update on the status of the construction project. Ms. Blout reported that the project was delayed by about three weeks due to weather, and the discovery of poor subsurface soil conditions, which resulted in a redesign of the foundation supports. She said that work was scheduled to recommence on Monday, April 17, and that the construction should now be completed by the end of June. She said that the materials for the new fuel shack would also be arriving on the 17<sup>th</sup>, and the

shack should take about a week to build. Ralph Cataldo asked if the contractor was using two crews, one for the Fuel Farm work and one for the building, and Ms. Blout said yes.

Mr. Garfield reported that a trash barge was also expected on the 17<sup>th</sup>, to remove the marine debris from the beach cleanup, so it will be a busy day on Cuttyhunk. He said that when the contractor barge returns on Saturday to pick up the crane, it would carry over the materials for the new Cemetery fence. Ms. Blout said that work was also underway on the Coast Guard Boathouse roof.

**Item 3. (Buoy Mooring)** Chairman Roy said that the Committee had received a request to approve a temporary mooring in Town waters, a couple of miles north of Nashawena in Buzzards Bay, for an acoustical device to measure boat and marine mammal sounds in connection with one of the offshore wind projects, from consultant Thayer Mahan. He said that the Coast Guard had already approved the buoy as a private aid to navigation, and that it was proposed to be installed in July, and be in place for less than a year. He said that he told the applicant that there was a \$50 annual fee (calendar year) for moorings in Town waters. Mr. Roy said that he had circulated information on the buoy to the Committee for their review, and that the buoy would be illuminated at night. Mr. Garfield moved to approve the application for a temporary mooring. Upon a second by Ms. DiMare and no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 4. (Review Wharf and Harbor Budgets)** Chairman Roy summarized the FY24 Wharf budget. He said that FY23 expenses were in line with the FY23 budget line items, so he wasn't proposing big changes for FY24 budget. He said that payroll was slightly increased, because costs for the bathroom cleaning were in that line item instead of Public Toilets. He proposed an increase of \$10,000 in Electric, in anticipation of the fuel surcharge that was forecast for the end of FY23. He also proposed a \$10,000 contribution to the Stabilization account. He said that he had discussed the budget with Wharfinger George Isabel, who was comfortable with Mr. Roy's proposed budget. Mr. Garfield said that the roof on the Fish Shacks would need replacement in the next year or two, as it was showing some wear. Mr. Cataldo said that the shacks were redone in 2004, so it's been about 20 years.

Mr. Garfield asked if we should carry some maintenance funding for the Barge Ramp, and Ms. Wright said that the Barge Ramp was managed by the Solid Waste Department. Mr. Cataldo asked if any pilings in the Marina needed replacement, and Mr. Roy said that he knew of one, next to Mark Brodeur's slip, that should have been replaced last year but wasn't. He said that he understood that Don Lynch was planning to be in the harbor mid-May, and that Mr. Roy hoped that any piling work could be done at that time. Mr. Garfield asked about the existing dinghy float at the Fuel Dock, and if that could be reused. Mr. Roy said that the plan was to build three new dinghy floats for the Fuel Dock so they would all be the same dimensions and match one another. He said that we would store the existing float temporarily, as he was sure that we could find a place to use it.

Chairman Roy reviewed the FY24 Harbor budget with the Committee. He said that he had bumped up the contractual services line item, and reduced the contribution to Special Projects, to help pay for the new dinghy floats at the Fuel Dock. He said that the cost could be covered between the FY23 and FY24 Wharf and Harbor budgets, as he expected the invoices would be spread between fiscal years. He said that other FY23 Harbor expenses were tracking well with the FY23 budget line items, so he wasn't proposing any other changes for FY24 budget. He said that Town Reimbursements, and expected revenues, were proposed to be the same as last year. Mr. Garfield said that he saw only two deepwater moorings being rented, and that he thought that we had four available. Mr. Roy said that the rental of those deepwater moorings was an accommodation to deep draft boats that were with us all season, and that we only had Chang and Novick at the moment. He said that we made more money by renting those spots on a nightly transient basis, so that's why only two of the four were rented for the season. There being no further discussion on the proposed budgets, Mr. Garfield moved acceptance of the Wharf and Harbor budgets as presented. Upon a second by Ms. Lynch the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Roy said that he would forward these budgets to The Fin Com for their approval. If Fin Com sought any changes, the budgets would come back to us for review and concurrence at our May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Item 5. (Update on Slips and Shacks)** Mr. Roy said that the only issue that he was aware of was the need to get annual insurance certificates from the shack renters listing the Town as an additional insured on their liability insurance. He said that the Town had inconsistently received those certificates in the past, although they are a requirement of shack renters. He said that he would draft a letter for Lisa to send out. Bonnie Veeder rhetorically asked why a tee shirt shop needed liability insurance. Mr. Garfield asked if we had received any requests for the two parking lot vendor locations for the 2023 season. Ms. Wright said that she had received a request from Ms. Veeder for her ice cream stand. Mr. Roy noted that Ms. Lynch was on the call, and she replied that they intended to use their spot again this year, and that she would email the request to Ms. Wright. Mr. Garfield said that Wayne Perrier was running a new feed down the Fish Dock to serve the Power Posts at the end of the dock, so we shouldn't have that localized power distribution problem for the upcoming season. Mr. Roy asked Mr. Garfield to work with Mr. Perrier on wiring a couple of Power Posts on the Fuel Dock when the new Fuel Dock shack was being wired.

**Item 6. (Mooring Collector Report)** Dale Lynch said that he didn't have much to report, other than he was starting around April 15 to commission the floats and the moorings, to have everything up and running by May 15. He said that he has helpers lined up. He said that he's off island next week for a Water class, but he would bring the Town Boat over with him when he came back. He said that he was also getting the five replacement mooring buoys that we had ordered.

**Item 7. (Wharfing Report)** Mr. Roy reported that Mr. Isabel was unable to join today's meeting, and that the issues he had raised with Mr. Roy, such as replacement of the broken piling, the Wharf budget, and new Power Posts, have already been covered. Mr. Roy said that he would notify the Conservation Commission of the

proposed piling replacement under the new “General Provisions for Incidental Repairs” policy.

**Item 8. (Old Business/ Review “To Do” List)** Regarding the replacement of the Public Toilets building at the Town Dock, Mr. Roy said that he has had many conversations with engineers and architect Will Saltonstall about the permitting challenges. If we replace more than 50% of the building we need to comply with the new requirements, which include elevating the structure out of the flood zone. He said that it would be problematic to have our toilets 12 feet in the air. He said that the challenge was getting an architect or engineer to stamp plans that could be considered noncompliant. He said that we could repair our existing facility, but we may not qualify for the Seaport Economic Council grant that we were awarded, as our application was predicated on extensively flood proofing the building. He said that the prefab construction approach still needed to meet the code. As an alternative, Mr. Roy proposed that we consider buying portable restroom buildings that could be towed out of the flood zone if a hurricane was forecast. He said that these units, used at high end weddings and such, were very attractive, and could be wired and plumbed into our existing septic system, but with quick disconnects. He said that with ramps and landscaping we could have an attractive, modern bathroom facility. He said that he hoped that the Seaport Economic Council grant could still be used. He asked for Committee feedback before starting research into this approach.

Mr. Cataldo said that he thought that it was the only viable way to avoid the floodplain issue. He agreed that replacing more than 50% of the building triggered the new code requirements, which would be impossible to meet. He said that we should try for a nautical look to the units, possibly to match the look of the Wharf Shack. He said that he was open to the idea. Mr. Garfield agreed that it was a viable option that should be explored. He said if that proved unfeasible, we could try to spruce up the existing building. He said that he expected that nothing could be done in time for this summer. The sense of the Committee was to encourage Mr. Roy to research this approach and get back to the group.

**Item 9. (New Business and Public Comment)** Ms. Wright said that she had a bill for \$497 for paint. Mr. Roy asked if Dale Lynch had reviewed and approved it. Mr. Lynch said yes, that he had brought it to Town Hall for payment. The Committee approved the invoice. Chairman Roy recognized Charlie Lovell. Mr. Lovell said that he last attended our meeting in the fall, and that Mr. Roy had agreed to go through the minutes of the past meetings to look for references to the status of his Seasonal Mooring in the Federal Basin. Mr. Roy said that he did review the past minutes last winter and found a reference. He said that he wished Mr. Lovell had let him know that he was going to be attending today’s meeting, so he could have it available for the discussion. Mr. Lovell asked Mr. Roy what the minutes showed. Mr. Roy replied that he couldn’t exactly recall, as he had pulled the material some months ago, but that it was inconclusive. Mr. Lovell asked Mr. Roy to send him the material that he found within the next week, and Mr. Roy agreed to do so. While Mr. Lovell had the floor, he said that he was looking for a used

200Hp outboard motor if anybody had one for sale. There was no further Public Comment at this time.

**Item 10. (Adjournment)** Chairman Roy proposed Saturday, May 13, 2023 at 10:30am for our next meeting, to be held at Town Hall and by Zoom. Ms. DiMare moved to adjourn the meeting, and upon a second by Mr. Garfield, the motion was passed unanimously at 11:20am.

**TO DO LIST:**

1. Mr. Roy to write a letter on eelgrass regeneration to the regulatory authorities, once Mr. Garfield and Foth completed the survey.
2. Mr. Roy and Dale Lynch to develop a layout of the mooring grid to create greater spacing between the boats, for review by the Committee.
3. Mr. Garfield to look at the availability of temporary mooring locations in the Yacht Club area to see if we have a spot for Chip Bradish.
4. Mr. Roy to call John Robbins to inquire about his plans for the use of his temporary mooring location.
5. Mr. Roy to call John Rockwell.
6. Mr. Roy to draft a letter to Shack renters about their insurance certificates.
7. Mr. Garfield to speak with Wayne Perrier about Power Posts on the Fuel Dock.
8. Mr. Roy to research portable toilet facilities.
9. Mr. Roy to send meeting minutes to Mr. Lovell

Respectfully submitted, Leo Pierre Roy

Minutes approved May 13, 2023