

Minutes of the
Town of Gosnold
Harbor Management Committee
July 7, 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 10:41am. Present were Harbor Committee Members 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 Wharfinger/Harbormaster George Isabel, Mooring Collector/Assistant Harbormaster Dale Lynch, Selectboard Member Gail Blout, Conservation Commission Chair David Warr, Alden Anderson, Geo Huey, Paul Lehner, Sarah Lehner, Carlyn Nunes, George Shaw, and Sean Uiterwyk. Chairman Roy confirmed that the Committee members could hear the discussion and be heard.

Seth Garfield moved acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of May 13, 2023 as written and distributed. The motion was seconded by Paula DiMare. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

Item 2. (Review Mail/Bills) Mr. Roy said that we were in receipt of a proposal from Foth to do the Chapter 91 permitting of the Fuel Dock modifications for \$12,850. He said that he had contacted the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) through an online application seeking approval for a minor modification, which is what we are proposing, but in reviewing the satellite photos the DEP determined that other modifications had been made to the dock since it was permitted in 1920, so they required a new license application. Mr. Roy said that it was an involved 12-18 month process. The sense of the Committee was to approve the Foth proposal, the cost of which Mr. Roy suggested could be paid over two fiscal years of Wharf operating budgets. Mr. Roy reported that he had a request from Michelle Carvalho of the STEAM Program to place a covered bucket on the dock to collect invasive green crabs caught by children. This was okay with the Committee. There were no bills.

Item 3. (Mooring Collector Report) Dale Lynch reported that everything was moving along fine for the season, but that business was slow. He said that revenues were down about \$6,000 over last year, and that the lousy weather was a big factor. He said that he had two helpers, Ryan Hewes and Oliver Miano, who were working out well. He said that the new mooring balls arrived from Hercules. Mr. Roy said that there still some winter sticks on the Fuel Dock, which needed to be stored as we hoped the Fuel Dock would be operational by mid-July. Mr. Lynch said that he would move them. He said that the barge was expected next week to move the pilings at the Fuel Dock and Marina.

Item 4. (Wharfinger Report) Mr. Isabel reported that business was also down at the Marina, as the weather has been "iffy". He said that he's had more cancellations than

ever, and that the morning fog was keeping people away. Mr. Isabel said that we've had some good days, and that he expected things to be better as the season progressed. He said that he had a group of six boats, all of which brought scooters or electric bikes. He said that he had them leaned up against the Wharfinger Shack, and someone asked if he was opening a bike rental shop, which started a new island rumor. Lexi Lynch said that she has noticed more scooters, including the fast single wheel type. She wondered if we needed a bike rack somewhere in the Town Dock area. Mr. Roy said that he thought that was a good idea, and asked Ms. Wright if she would look into buying one. The Committee thought that there might be room on the prow for a 6-8 bike rack, which could be relocated if that spot didn't work out. Mr. Isabel reported that the ball fell off the top of the flagpole and needed repair. Mr. Garfield offered to speak with Wayne Perrier about using the lift to make the necessary repairs.

Item 5. (Fuel Dock/Farm Update) Mr. Roy reported that Ralph Packer had made the first delivery to the new fuel tanks that morning, which was significant progress. Selectboard Member Gail Blout said that Stan the carpenter was expected on island for all next week to finish the shack, to which someone remarked "if he shows up". Mr. Roy stated for the record that although the contractor had committed to the Coast Guard Boathouse repair project, the replacement Fuel Shack was an add-on to his contract, which was not scheduled, and that they were doing us a favor by squeezing in that work as their schedule allowed, which is why work on the shack has been intermittent. Ms. Blout said that there was a big party on the dock on the night of the 4th, and that perhaps we should block it off until the work is completed. Seth Garfield said that people were jumping off the contractor's ladders, and that it was fortunate that no one got hurt.

Mr. Roy gave an update on the status of the Fuel Dock concession agreement. He said that Duane and Lexi Lynch were still waiting to hear back from their insurance agent prior to signing the agreement, but there was no issue. He said that the section regarding building a new building was being deleted from the agreement, now that the Town was providing the replacement building. Mr. Garfield said that he expected spill prevention training would start next week, as it required coordination between the operator and the Town. Lisa Wright suggested that we prepare a "punch list" for cleanup of the whole area as the Fuel Farm project neared completion. Mr. Garfield agreed, saying that the area was a mess, and needed cleaning up, including moving the 8x8 timbers from the old planters and cleaning up the parking lot. In response to a question, Ms. Blout said that the portable, self-contained bathroom trailer was arriving in the fall. She said that the DEP spill response trailers were being moved, and that the Town was buying a storage container for Town property currently stored in the Boathouse, such as the winter sticks and spare solar panels.

Conservation Commission Chair David Warr asked if there were going to be changes to the solid waste area, which would need approval of the Gosnold Conservation Commission (GCC) if they varied from the approved plan. Ms. Blout said that the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management (CZM) grant had not been awarded for that portion of the project, and that the Town was seeking a new CZM grant for the design and permitting of changes to the solid waste area. She said that once that work was

completed, the plans would come before the GCC. Mr. Warr asked to be involved in the process.

Item 6. (Old Business/Boats parking in the channel) Mr. Garfield said that there was an ongoing issue with too many small boats pulling up on the beach in the channel. He said that he has ordered new signs and flags, but that enforcement was needed. Ms. Blout said that she spoke with Buzzards Bay Coalition (BBC) President Mark Rasmussen, who said that he would ask their local representative, Craig Willey, to help with enforcement. Mr. Garfield said that would help, but that the BBC did not patrol by boat. He suggested that we ask the Wharf staff to patrol the channel after they meet the morning boat. He said that 10:30 to 11am seemed to be a peak time, and that he has seen as many as 30 boats pulled up on the beach, leaving no place to swim. There was discussion about what the sign should say. Mr. Roy reminded the group that we could not officially declare it a swimming beach, as that would restrict boat traffic in the channel. It was suggested that the sign read “No boat parking between flags”.

Under Old Business, Mr. Roy said that he had polled the Committee on the request for the use of the third vendor location for the summer by Will Stone and Henry DeVoe for a hot dog cart. He said that the majority of the Committee supported their use of that spot on a temporary basis for this season only, to see how things went. He asked how things were going so far, and Ms. Lynch said that she thought that it was going well. Mr. Garfield said that the cart should be relocated in the space or some rocks moved to improve the layout. He also said that they weren’t open every day and needed to post their hours. Ms. Lynch moved approval of their use of that spot for this season only. Upon a second by Ms. DiMare, the motion passed. Mr. Roy asked if Health Agent Karen Walega had made her annual inspection of the food vendors yet. It was reported that she had made all inspections last Monday, and, remarkably, everyone passed.

Mr. Roy asked about the whereabouts of the bulletin board that we purchased. Mr. Garfield said that it was in storage pending decisions about the Public Toilets building. Mr. Roy requested that it be put up, as we need a place to post information. Ms. Lynch offered to find someone to put it up.

Mr. Roy reported that he spoke with architect Will Saltonstall about renovating the Public Toilets building little bit at a time. Mr. Saltonstall thought that it was a good approach, but suggested that Mr. Roy coordinate closely with Building Inspector Andy Bobola. Mr. Roy said that he spoke with Mr. Bobola about the challenges of meeting the current building code requirements if we renovated more than 50% of the building’s value. Mr. Bobola suggested that we get an assessment of the building’s value, and keep any renovations below 50% of that amount. Mr. Roy said that he approached Slater Anderson of Landvest to provide an “Opinion of Value” to get the ball rolling.

Item 7. (New Business/ Public Comment) Geo Huey asked if there would be a trash receptacle for boaters at the Fuel Dock. He said that it would be very convenient. Alden Anderson said that while that was a nice idea, he was sure that it would be abused by Town residents dumping their trash there. He said that the truck at the Town Dock has a

sign stating “Boaters Waste Only”, but that residents routinely dump their trash there, despite twice a week curbside trash pickup. Ms. Lynch said that she has observed residents dumping cardboard, and even an old microwave in that truck. Mr. Anderson said that the development of a new solid waste management plan was put on hold while the Water and Fuel Farm projects took priority, but that it was time to put solid waste and recycling at the top of the Town’s agenda, to reduce waste and to get our costs down. Mr. Anderson said that he didn’t want to be the bad guy, but that it’s been a “free for all” at the trash truck... much worse than last year, and out of control. He said that the truck was not for business waste. He said that the Selectboard needed to get a message out to residents reminding them. Ms. Blout said that they would discuss it at their next meeting on July 15, and send a message. Ms. Lynch said that the Town could install some cameras at the boater’s trash truck as a deterrent. She said that they were planning to install them at the Fuel Dock, and that they were surprisingly affordable. Mr. Garfield suggested that private parties could install security cameras, but that there could be a privacy issue if the Town installed cameras.

Ms. Blout reported that she continues to be in communication with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) about the dredging of the channel, but the Currituck is out of the water, and that dredging might not be possible until next spring. Harbormaster Isabel said that there have been numerous reports of groundings by vessels using the channel, and that he was keeping a record. He said that when there is a grounding, he usually hears about it on the radio and makes a note of it. Ms. Blout said that a record of the groundings would be most helpful as she talks with the Corps. There was no further Public Comment.

Item 8. (Adjournment) Chairman Roy canvassed the Committee regarding meeting dates, and it was agreed that Fridays were preferable to Saturdays during the summer season. He proposed Friday, August 18th for our next meeting, which was agreeable to the group. Ms. DiMare moved to adjourn the meeting, and upon a second by Ms. Lynch, the motion was passed unanimously at 11:36am.

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. Garfield to work with Mr. Perrier on repairing the flag pole.
5. Ms. Lynch to oversee installation of the bulletin board.

Respectfully submitted, Leo Pierre Roy
Minutes approved August 18, 2023