

Minutes of the
Town of Gosnold
Harbor Management Committee
August 18, 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 10:35am. Present were Harbor Committee Members Ralph Cataldo, Paula DiMare, Seth Garfield, Lexi Lynch, Leo Pierre Roy, Win Sanford, and Lisa Wright, representing the entirety of the Committee. Also present for portions of the meeting were Wharfinger/Harbormaster George Isabel, Mooring Collector/Acting Harbormaster Dale Lynch, Selectboard Member Sarah Berry, Alden Anderson, Rosemary Goettsche, Geo Huey, Paul Lehner, Sarah Lehner, Peggy Lovell Lynch, Carlyn Nunes, Adam Rose, George Shaw, Sean Uiterwyk, and Nancy Wilder. 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 July 7, 2023 as written and distributed. Lisa Wright noted a typo: Brian Hughes should be Ryan Hewes. The amended motion was seconded by Paula DiMare. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the amended minutes passed unanimously.

Item 2. (Mail/Bills) Ms. Wright said that there were no mail/bills.

Item 3. (Mooring Collector Report) Dale Lynch reported that revenues year to date were down by about \$10,000. He said that we had collected \$134,075 from 5/15 to 8/14. He said that the lost revenue equated to about five bad nights. He said that otherwise the season was going well. He said that the Fireworks Weekend was a big success, with only a couple of “bad apples”. Mr. Lynch reported that the only major issue he was hearing about was the shoaling of the channel. He said that it was getting “mighty shallow”, and that a deep draft boat from Mattapoisett had tried to come in at low tide and ran aground, blocking the channel for a time, and needing help to get off. Seth Garfield reported that the barge people were picking their tides more carefully, and some deeper draft boats were choosing to stay out of the inner harbor.

Item 4. (Wharfinger Report) Mr. Roy said that he was very happy that Mr. Isabel was back, following his health scare. He said that Mr. Isabel’s excellent staff and many others did a great job pitching in in his absence. Mr. Cataldo said that there was a lot of love, respect, and appreciation shown for George during that time. George Isabel reported that the situation in the Marina was similar to the moorings with business also down. He said that they have had more cancellations this season than ever before, due to the weather. Mr. Roy noted that we currently have a 24 hour cancellation policy, which seemed pretty generous given better weather forecasting. He wondered if we should increase that to 48 hours. Lexi Lynch said that she fully agreed with Mr. Roy,

and said that 48 hour cancellation should not be a burden to our customers. Peggy Lovell Lynch agreed, saying that she'd support the change in policy and had recently suggested it to Mr. Cataldo. Mr. Garfield said that most hotels and other lodging had 48 or even 72 hour cancellation policies. Paula DiMare said that she supported the change to 48 hours. Mr. Roy said that we were nearing the end of the season, and recommended that we make the change for next season. Win Sanford said that he'd been keeping track of rates at other marinas up and down the coast as he's been cruising this summer, about 20 marinas from Long Island Sound to Nantucket. He said that our rate was very low, and that we could easily consider a rate increase of 50 cents/foot. Mr. Roy said that he supported the concept, and suggested that we discuss raising the rate at our next meeting. He asked Mr. Sanford to circulate his list of marina rates to the Committee. (Please see attached list.)

Item 5. (Fuel Dock/Farm Update) Mr. Roy said that he was delighted that we finally have fuel service back at Cuttyhunk. Mr. Garfield said that things were going well from his perspective as Fire Chief, and stressed that we continue to have an emphasis on the safe operation of the facility. Mr. Roy asked operator Lexi Lynch how things were going so far. Ms. Lynch reported that things were going great so far, with a few kinks that needed to be worked out with the PetroVend payment system, such as moving the unit, but that they were working closely with SRS on the punch list, and making the necessary changes. She said that George Shaw was able to successfully dispense his own fuel, an island milestone. Ms. Lynch said that she still needed to do the OPW training, but that folks had been trained by SRS. She said that the system was set up for credit card only, so they currently weren't able to accept cash, but she said that she hoped that they would develop a work-around for that soon. She asked folks to spread the word that they would not be accepting American Express cards, because the fees were too high, but they did accept other credit cards. She said that debit cards were not working very well. She also reminded fuel customers to "lift the handle" to start the pumps.

Ms. Lynch said that with the Committee's permission she would like to paint some lines and "No Smoking" and "No Jumping" signs near the dispensers on the dock. She said that they also planned to add some barriers to keep people from parking on the dock. The sense of the Committee was to support the addition of lines and signs, and we thanked her for doing that. Ms. Lynch said that the float had not yet been moved, which was a bit of an issue. She said that Duane might pull it away from the dock and attach it to the pilings to stop people from swimming off it. Mr. Roy agreed and asked if anyone knew Don Lynch's schedule for moving the pilings and relocating the ramp. Dale Lynch said that he had coordinated with Don, who had tried to move the pilings but was unable to dislodge them. Dale Lynch said Don was now back on a project in Fairhaven. Mr. Roy said that he would call Don to discuss the issue. Dale Lynch said that if the pilings couldn't be removed, he could dive on them and cut them off if necessary. Mr. Garfield suggested that the Committee do a site visit to the Fuel Dock as part of the September meeting.

Item 6. (Treasurer Report) Mr. Garfield said that he had placed this on the agenda to cover any fiscal year end transfers or other financial business. Mr. Roy said that he would call Town Treasurer Sarah Smith to discuss any necessary transfers.

Item 7. (Visitor Center) Ms. Wright reported that we were waiting for the carpenter to come back and finish the windows and doors. She said that he was expected next week. She said that she thought that some painting was going to be done in the meantime. Mr. Garfield reported that the Town purchased two 10' by 10' Conex boxes to store Town materials and equipment that was being removed from the Coast Guard Boathouse Visitor Center. He said that they would be located in the fenced in solid waste area. He said that the spare solar panels would be stored in the boxes. Mr. Garfield reported that Frank Corp. had picked up 6-7 barrels of waste oil from the Powerhouse for proper disposal. He said that a septic truck pumped out the Buzzards Bay Coalition pump out tank, and had also pumped out the Public Toilets tank.

Item 8. (Update Project List/Public Toilets) Mr. Roy reported that Slater Anderson of Landvest was working on preparing an "Opinion of Value" of the Public Toilets Building, so that we could begin the design process with architect Will Saltonstall for the renovations. Lexi Lynch said that we had a more immediate problem, as the Fish Shacks roof was leaking. She said that there was a leak over her cash register. Mr. Roy asked her if she could get someone to cover the leak with plastic until we could address it. He said that replacing that roof has been on the list, we'll just need to expedite it. Ms. Lynch said that she had heard that Pete Cardoza was planning to do some roof work on the island, and perhaps we could get a bid from him. Mr. Roy asked Ms. Lynch to speak with him. Mr. Roy said that he would look at our budgets to determine a source of funds for the roof replacement. He asked if the roof on the Public Toilets Building was holding, and Ms. Lynch said that she thought that it was fine for now. Mr. Sanford noted that the roof was the most important part of any building, and suggested that we might want to replace that first on the Public Toilets Building. Ms. Lynch offered to get a price on that roof from Pete Cardoza as well.

Item 9. (Old Business) Seth Garfield noted that the Selectboard had converted to a standing agenda for their meetings, so items weren't missed. He suggested a similar approach for the Harbor Committee. Ms. Wright said that she could prepare a standing agenda. Ms. Lynch said that the Town needed a credit card for fuel purchases. Ms. Wright said that she was working with Town Treasurer Sarah Smith on that. She said that they planned to switch over to a Rockland Trust credit card.

Item 10. (New Business/ Public Comment) Win Sanford said that he had been concerned for some time about the A-Frame that the Committee used to maintain the moorings. He said that in his opinion it was sketchy, and that only Dale Lynch could operate it safely. He suggested that we begin the process of seeking a replacement. Mr. Sanford said that if we had a better unit, the Town could possibly rent it out to people servicing their own moorings. Mr. Roy thanked Mr. Sanford for bringing this issue to our attention, and asked him if he was willing to work with Mr. Lynch to start considering a replacement. Mr. Sanford agreed. There was no further Public Comment.

Item 11. (Adjournment) Chairman Roy proposed Friday, September 29 for our next meeting, which was agreeable to the group. He said that he would try to attend the meeting in person, depending on his recuperation from hip surgery. Ms. DiMare moved to adjourn the meeting, and upon a second by Ms. Lynch, the motion was passed unanimously at 11:22am.

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 borrow a lift to repair the flag pole.
5. Ms. Lynch to oversee installation of the bulletin board.
6. Mr. Sanford to work with Dale Lynch on designing a new A-frame for mooring maintenance.

Respectfully submitted, Leo Pierre Roy

Minutes approved September 29, 2023

Marina Fee Survey

Conducted by Win Sanford, Summer 2023

Harbor/ Mooring fee/ Dockage per foot/ Temporary tie-up

Cuttyhunk 55.00 3.50 25.00
Block Island New Harbor 5.00 to 7.50
Block Island – Champlains 3.00 to 14.00
Block Island – Paynes 5.00 to 7.00
Dutch Harbor 67.00 35.00
Jamestown 85.00
3 rd Beach 20.00 20.00
NBYC 60.00 (launch) 3.00 to 4.00
South Wharf – Padanaram 4.75
Pope's Island 45.00 2.75
Mattapoisset Boatyard 40.00 40.00
Marion – Burr Bros. 50.00 5.00
Onset – Harbormaster 40.00 3.00
Kingman Yacht Center 60.00 (launch) 4.00 to 6.00
West Falmouth Boat Club 45.00
Vineyard Haven Moorings 45.00 (outside)
Vineyard Haven Marina 4.38 to 17.00
Vineyard Haven Harbormaster 70.00 (inside) + 2.50 MC svc.chg.
Oak Bluffs 48.50 3.25 to 7.50 48.50
Edgartown Harbormaster 45.00 6.00 45.00
Hyannis Marina 4.75 to 11.00
Stonington YC 5.50
Noank Boatyard 2.00/ft 4.00 to 5.00
Safe Harbor – Mystic 4.00
Fishers island YC 4.50 to 7.50
Shelter Island – Jacks Marine 46.00 to 147.00 5.00

Average: 51.34 4.52/ft to 8.65/ft 35.58