

Minutes of the
Town of Gosnold
Harbor Management Committee
May 13, 2021

Item 1. (Call to Order/ Minutes) A meeting of the Town of Gosnold Harbor Management Committee via ZOOM teleconference was called to order at 10:35am. Present were Harbor Committee Members Ralph Cataldo, Paula DiMare, Seth Garfield, Maddie Lynch, Leo Pierre Roy, and Lisa Wright, representing a quorum of the Committee. Also present for portions of the meeting were Harbormaster/Wharfinger George Isabel, Mooring Collector Dale Lynch, Selectman Gail Blout, Conservation Commission Chair David Warr, Serena Hall Davis, David Frothingham, Rosemary Rice Goettsche, Philip Houha, Paul Lehner, Duane Lynch, Ollie M., George Shaw, Catherine Slattery, and Nancy Wilder. Other members of the public participated, but did not identify themselves. Chairman Roy confirmed that the Committee members could hear the discussion and be heard.

Lisa Wright moved acceptance of the minutes of the meeting of April 15, 2021 as written and distributed. The motion was seconded by Maddie Lynch, and passed unanimously.

Item 2. (Mail) Mr. Roy reported that two emails were received regarding the replacement of pilings in the harbor. Apparently the individuals were notifying both the Harbor Committee and the Conservation Commission of their plans to have Don Lynch replace their pilings. Messages were received regarding the McLean piling, #17, and one owned by Asa Lombard IV, #35. A message was received from Isabel Day requesting a temporary mooring for the season for a 24 foot boat. Mr. Roy reminded the group that temporary moorings were granted in the Yacht Club area of the harbor, in a location designated by the Harbormaster, and that the tackle had to be removed at the end of the season. Paula DiMare moved the granting of a temporary mooring to the Day family, and upon a second by Ralph Cataldo, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Roy said that a message was also received from Maddie Lynch, and he asked her to share the contents. Ms. Lynch said that she would not be using her previously assigned vendor location in the Town Dock area for her taco cart this season. She said that David Martin had left the business, and her father had become involved, and if the stand was opened, it would be in a different location, not on Town property. Mr. Roy thanked her for telling the Committee, and observed that her tacos were very popular with the visiting boaters. He said that he was not aware of any other vendors looking for a location, but if someone was interested, they first needed to approach the Harbor Committee, which reviewed applications and made recommendations to the Selectmen, who were the permit granting authority. Mr. Cataldo noted that the other two locations were well established, but that the location near the flagpole was reviewed on an annual basis. He said that he, personally, would miss the tacos, and said that boaters appreciated the variety of food options at the dock. Ms. DiMare said that if other

vendors approached the Committee about using that spot, she would support another food vendor, but not a retail business, like a tee shirt vendor. Others agreed. Ms. Wright said that there were two bills, a freight bill from the Cuttyhunk Ferry for the mooring balls, and one from the Water Taxi. The Committee approved the bills, and Ms. DiMare offered to add her signature when she was next in Town Hall.

Item 3. (Wharfinger/Harbormaster Report). This item was deferred as George Isabel was on another call for the Town.

Item 4. (Mooring Collector's Report) Dale Lynch reported that everything was up and running, and that the moorings had already been in for about two weeks. He said that he was looking for the credit card machine, but that he was ready for the beginning of the season on Saturday. He asked about the trash bags that he was supposed to distribute to the boaters, and Ms. Wright replied that they were on order, and expected on arrive around May 25th. She said that in the meantime there was a supply of clear bags for trash and blue bags for recycling in the Wharfinger's Shack that Mr. Lynch could use. Ms. Wright reported that the new trash and recycling cans should be on island any day. Mr. Roy thanked Dale on behalf of the Committee for another smooth opening to the boating season.

Item 4a. (Review/ Vote on Budgets) Mr. Roy reviewed the changes that he had made to the budget subsequent to our last meeting, and following the Finance Committee meeting on April 30. Both Mr. Lynch and Ms. Wright raised concerns about the amount of revenue expected from the nightly environmental fee, especially in the first year as people were getting used to it. Mr. Roy agreed, and reduced those amounts in both budgets: Harbor to \$15,000 and Wharf to \$8,000. Seth Garfield moved acceptance of the budgets as revised, and upon a second by Ms. DiMare, the motion carried. Mr. Roy said that he would send the revised budgets to the Committee, Fin Com and Treasurer Sarah Smith.

Item 3. (Wharfinger/Harbormaster Report). George Isabel reported that everything was functional for the opening of the season, but that the painting of the Fish Shacks had been delayed due to lousy weather. He said that the new position for Dock Attendant, to help clean the bathrooms and deal with trash had been posted, but that there had not been any sign ups yet. He reported that the power posts had all been rebuilt and that the spare breakers were in stock.

Mr. Roy reviewed the plans to rent a temporary generator, saying that one had been identified, and that Wayne Perrier said that the 275kW model proposed should meet our needs. He said that the cost to rent the unit from mid-June to mid-September was \$16,000. He said that he was proposing that the Wharf budget cover the cost of the rental, and pay the meter rate for the electricity, if the Electric Light Department (ELD) provided the diesel fuel and covered the cost of hookup. He said that he had yet to approach the ELD to discuss the concept. To pay for the rental cost, Mr. Roy proposed increasing the electric hookup fee from \$30/night to \$40/night for 50amp service, and from \$20/night to \$25/night for 30amp service. He said that he estimated that the

increase would generate approximately \$23,000 in additional revenue. He said that he hoped that the generator could be transported on and off the island on a Town barge run, as he had not budgeted for dedicated trips. He asked if there were any questions about the proposal.

George Shaw asked about the noise, and Mr. Roy replied that the generator was rated at 74 dB(A) at 23 feet. Mr. Roy noted that we all know how well noise travelled over water, however, and that the plan was to only operate the generator from 4pm to 10pm on weekend nights. Ms. DiMare asked whether locating the generator near the Coast Guard Boathouse required Conservation Commission approval. Mr. Roy replied that although it was in a resource area, siting the generator there did not alter the resource, therefore he believed that it was not subject to Con Com jurisdiction. He said that there was meeting on Saturday, however, and that he would discuss it with the Commission. Nancy Wilder asked about the impact that the noise would have on the birds, and if we should do an environmental impact study. Mr. Roy replied that an environmental impact study was not required, because the proposed activity did not exceed any thresholds of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act. Ms. Lynch said that she was fine with the generator being sited near the Boathouse, but said that we should be prepared to explain the need for it to our mooring and marina customers.

Mr. Cataldo said that there was a maximum noise level of 86 dB(A) allowed at the Oak Bluffs marina, so our level was below that. He noted that the electrical hookup fee was much lower at Nantucket, as they only charged \$20/night for 30amp and \$25/night for 50amp service, but that their dockage fee was significantly higher. Dale Lynch, wearing his Electric Light Commissioner hat, said that he was okay with the proposal, as long as the accounting matched up. He said that as an Enterprise Fund he wanted to make sure that this proposal did not adversely affect their budget. Mr. Garfield said that he expected a Town barge run the 2nd or 3rd week of June, and that there would also likely be one in mid-September. Ms. Wright said that Mr. Perrier would likely locate the generator between the trash enclosure and the Boathouse.

Mr. Isabel said that he was concerned about raising the electric rates at this point in the season, as he had already taken a number of reservations. He said that it would be awkward to go back after the fact and raise the rates. He said that this increase was on top of the raise in the dockage fee, and the new \$5/night environmental fee. Mr. Garfield agreed, and suggested that we could make the new electrical rate effective on all new reservations going forward, and not to impose it retroactively. Mr. Cataldo agreed with that approach. Mr. Roy said that his action items were to review the proposal with the Electric Light Commissioners and the Conservation Commission. Mr. Garfield moved to approve the rental of a temporary generator for this season, and an increase in the electric rates going forward to \$40/night for 50amp service, and \$25/night for 30amp service. Ms. DiMare seconded the motion. Conservation Commission Chair David Warr asked for clarification of the motion, and Mr. Roy reviewed the proposal. Mr. Roy said that he was planning to bring the issue before the Conservation Commission at Saturday's meeting.

Serena Davis asked if the generator would have any impact on the teenagers partying at the Ferry Dock, and Mr. Roy noted that it was self-contained and would only be operating for a few hours in the evening. She wondered about conflicts with boats docked there, such as when the small cruise ships were at the island, but Mr. Isabel said that they were typically there less than six nights a season. Mr. Roy called for the vote, which passed with Ms. Wright abstaining.

Item 5. (Selectmen's Report) This item was passed over, as no Selectmen were present.

Item 6. (Fuel Farm Update) Mr. Roy reported that Town Administrator Michael Milanoski was unable to attend today's meeting, but reported in an email that the Town was applying for a CZM grant to study the options for a new tank farm. Seth Garfield, wearing his Fire Chief hat, reported that some soil contamination was discovered when the old fuel tanks were removed, and that RM Packer company's consultants were preparing a remediation plan for submission to DEP and the Town.

Item 7. (Trash Management) Mr. Roy said that Mr. Milanoski had sent him an email requesting that the collection of the nightly environmental fee start on May 15th. Mr. Milanoski reported that the new trash trailer should be in New Bedford by the end of the week for transport to the island. He requested a volunteer to help develop a flyer to give to visiting boaters explaining the new environmental fee and providing an introduction to the island. Ms. Wright and Mr. Garfield both offered to work with Mr. Milanoski on the flyer.

Item 8. (Old Business) In response to a question, Mr. Garfield said that the bathrooms were opened and ready to go. He said that he planned to paint the floors next week. Ms. DiMare said that she had heard from Ginny Doran that she was willing to help with bathroom maintenance weekly from Sunday to Wednesday. Mr. Roy asked Mr. Isabel to reach out to her to discuss. Ms. DiMare asked about the status of the repair to the bulletin board, and Mr. Garfield said that Willie Archer had volunteered to work on that, and that it should be completed by May 25th.

Item 9. (New Business) There was no New Business to come before the Committee.

Item 10. (Adjournment) Chairman Roy noted that our next meeting was by Zoom conference call on Thursday, June 17, at 10:30am. Mr. Garfield moved to adjourn the meeting, and upon a second by Ms. DiMare, the motion was passed unanimously at 11:48am.

Respectfully submitted, Leo Pierre Roy

Approved June 17, 2021