

Harbor Advisory Committee
Wednesday, February 24, 2016
Community House - 7pm
-Minutes-

Present: Chair, Skip Montello; Vice Chair, Chris Murch; Larry Stepenuck; Kevin Carrigan; Dana Jorgensson; Steve Fritch

Absent: Fred Hillier; Phil Crotty

Also present: Harbormasters Rosemary Lesch and Scott Story; Toby O'Connell

Note: The Committee will be meeting for the next several months at the Community House because the heat is insufficient at the Firehouse Trust Building.

At the last meeting Mr. Montello asked the Committee to think about new ideas for 2016. He read Mr. Crotty's suggestion of having Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates for Town harbors. Harbormaster Story said there are no funds for that kind of mapping. Harbormaster Lesch said GPS mapping has been talked about. Mr. Montello noted the Committee wants to know what they can do to help forward that project.

Mr. Carrigan suggested cleaning up the shoreline, and getting the community, and the schools involved. Related to that topic, the Committee discussed the problem of trash in town, and also in and around the harbor. Mr. Montello asked Mr. Stepenuck if he could follow up on some of the ideas that were brought up by Committee members. Harbormaster Lesch suggested incorporating a waterfront clean up with National Service Day. Mr. Montello said the HAC should be able to spearhead beach clean-ups.

Ms. Jorgensson brought up the subject of enterprise funds – specifically the creation of a Waterways Enterprise Fund. She explained there is no such fund at the present, and she said it could be beneficial. Mr. Montello asked Ms. Jorgensson to look into this further.

Ms. Jorgensson then read Mr. Crotty's report to the Committee in his absence. (placed on file). The report outlined the following subjects:

- Congressman Moulton's office advises that the Granite Pier Harbor appraisal by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is still awaiting funding.
- Senator Tarr's office advises the funds to sign the agreement with GZA Consultants should be in the town hall within two weeks.
- DPW advised they have not yet engaged an engineer to design the Granite Pier

Staircase. The amount of \$25,000 was approved for the design at the September 2015 Town Meeting.

- The only application to the Community Preservation Committee this year related to harbor matters is a request for \$100,000 from the Thacher Island Committee to build a ramp at Straitsmouth.

The Harbormasters reported the Pigeon Cove breakwater project is moving along well, and on schedule.

MOTION: Ms. Jorgensson made a motion to accept the minutes of January 2016, Mr. Fritch seconded, the vote was 6 in favor, 0 opposed.

Mr. O'Connell, a local lobsterman, introduced himself to the Committee, and indicated he was interested in becoming a member of HAC. Mr. Montello encouraged Mr. O'Connell to write a Letter of Intent to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Montello said the HAC would be pleased to welcome Mr. O'Connell as a member.

Mr. Montello announced he is unable to attend the March meeting, and Mr. Murch will chair the meeting in his absence.

MOTION: There was a motion to adjourn, motion seconded, vote was 6 in favor, 0 opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Documents/Items submitted at Meeting and Placed on File:

- February Report dated February 24,2016 by Phillip Crotty