

MINUTES OF THE
WATERFRONT COMMITTEE MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2016

PRESENT: George Mutch, Chairman
Paul Brooks
Nancy Blazo
Pat O'Leary, Vice Chair
Paul Milone

ABSENT: Ray Nash
Herb Clifford

OTHERS: Bob Luongo, Planning Director
Lee Hultin, Recording Secretary

Chairman Mutch called the Waterfront Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall, 75 Middle Street, Weymouth, Ma 02189.

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

Pat O'Leary made a motion to approve the minutes of September 29, 2016 as amended to remove Dan Keefe as being present and was seconded by Nancy Blazo.

VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

PROJECT UPDATES

Proposal to create a public walkway between Lane Beach and Wessagussett Beach

Chairman Mutch stated that he worked with Pat O'Leary to sent a letter to the Seaport Economic Council endorsing this plan. This letter was distributed to everyone for their review.

Bob Luongo was the Waterfront Committee has been working on new ideas for the waterfront. After reviewing the Waterfront Plan of 1988 and the Open Space Plan they found an item that they would like to explore and that was to connect the two beaches in North Weymouth. Several years ago the 2 bath houses were demolished and they are still some debri remaining. In addition the beach abuts a coastal embankment that the town owns. This embankment is stable but there are some invasive species and trees growing within it. This is a cause for concern in the trees should fall. Also, there are some encroachments from the abutting neighbors with stairs going from their homes down to the beach.

An RFP went out and the town received 3 responses and they liked the one from Coastal Engineering from Orleans, Ma as they have worked on coastal embankments, beach connections and walkways over environmentally sensitive areas. They came in at about \$186,000. The problem is we don't have the funds yet so we have not signed a contract yet. In the meantime, the town has applied for a grant from the Seaport Economic Council which funds projects along

the coast. They would fund 80% and the town would fund the 20%. We should hear back from them in December.

This boardwalk would be handicap accessible and it could stimulate economic development along Route 3A. The town would go to the Community Preservation Committee to look for funding for the 20% that the town would contribute. After that there would be some community outreach to get input from the residents in the area.

After the design phase we could go back to the Seaport Economic Council for funding the costs of the project at 80%. We could then go back to CPC for the 20% for construction or look at other areas for the 20%. At this point we are not sure what the cost of the project would be as we only have a concept and not a design.

Conservation will be very involved as well as the Waterfront Committee. We are looking at fixing the stairs at the shelf area, removing the two foundations from the bath houses and adding a board walk to connect the beaches.

If we get the grant we will then go to CPC. If approved at CPC they will make the recommendation to the Mayor who will then send the request to the Town Council for approval. If we do not get the grant we will reapply in January.

HARBORMASTER REPORT

Paul Milone stated that the floats came out yesterday and will go back in April 2017. All the boats are still in the water, the 29' boat will be coming out tomorrow and the 36' boat will stay in due to the bridge project.

Paul is looking to amend the Waterways Ordinance. This is about whether or not to allow houseboats in Weymouth as there is a problem with removing waste. The Town Solicitor is reviewing what Paul is proposing and it will eventually come to the Waterfront Committee for their review.

George asked what is the difference between a house boat and a live aboard boat. Paul said there is not much difference if you live on them 12 months out of the year, there is a problem.

Paul Brooks asked if Marina Bay has problems with their boats. Paul did not know as he has not talked to them yet.

George said there are live a boards at Metropolitan Yacht Club in Braintree Landing.

Chairman Mutch stated that he would like to see the ordinance to see how restrictive it is. George asked when the boats come out of the water? Paul said normally November 15th but there only a few left in the water and Paul has been watching them.

The Fore River Bridge construction is still on going with Weymouth and Quincy alternating shifts and the town is still receiving funds for that.

The Harbormasters Association received 5 more cameras. These will be going at the new Fore River Bridge, Power Plant and Weymouth Port. Pat O'Leary asked if they ever considered the water tower at Great Hill that way you can see the whole harbor. The goal is to link Quincy, Hingham, Hull and the Coast Guard for mutual aide.

OTHER BUSINESS

Kibbey Property ribbon cutting went great. There was a good turnout.

The next meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Paul Milone made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 and was seconded by Nancy Blazo.
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted by:

Lee Hultin
Recording Secretary



Paul Brooks, Clerk



Date