

MINUTES OF THE  
WATERFRONT COMMITTEE MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2016

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

ABSENT: Paul Milone  
Ray Nash  
Dan Keefe

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.

Bob Luongo brought a copy of the Waterfront Plan to the meeting. He stated that he has been reviewing the plan and most of the items in this plan are already covered in the Open Space plan. He does recommend updating the Waterfront Plan as it would just be duplication.

#### **APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES**

Pat O'Leary made a motion to approve the minutes of February 25, 2016 and was seconded by Herb Clifford. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Pat O'Leary made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2016 and was seconded by Paul Brooks. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **HARBORMASTER'S REPORT**

- Review of launch ramp and beach sticker fees.

Pat O'Leary made a motion not to change the fee structure for the 2016 season and was seconded by Paul Brooks. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **WORK PROGRAM FOR 2015-16 DISCUSSION**

Bob Luongo stated that he met with Mayor Hedlund and the committee needs to find a purpose/mission. The Waterfront Plan goes back to 1988 and there has been significant changes to the waterfront since then, most of it is already covered in the Open Space Plan. Therefore, it does not seem cost effective to update the Waterfront Plan.

Bob asked the committee to come with some ideas on improvements that they would like to see. He asked about moorings. Moorings are charged at \$5.00 per foot. It was stated that the Fore River is wide open for moorings because there isn't a lot of demand back there due to the lack of access to it. You could add about 300 moorings back there if needed.

Wessagusset Yacht Club could add 50-100 more and the Back River has a waiting list because it is protected from the weather. Turn Harbor and South Shore Yacht Club are back there as well as individual moorings.

Some Ideas were:

- Enhance the Back River
- Cultivate the waterfront
- A sea walk along the waterfront

The original Waterfront Plan included connecting the Herring Run to Great Esker through the landfill and then connect Great Esker to Abigail Adams Park and Kibby Property. This vision is still good as the town continues to work on connecting all these. There was a brief discussion on how you would connect Great Esker to Abigail Adams Park and one idea was by tunneling under Route 3A. This has been on Cape Cod at the Brewster Bike Trails. Other ideas were to go around along the waterfront.

Other waterfront discussions included the pathway between Parnell Street and Caldwell Street along Fort Point Road. This path use to be very wide and is being closed in by the two abutting properties putting up fences. The path is now very narrow. Perhaps the committee could look into this to see if they residents are taking over town property and widen it again.

Residents along Regatta Road are cutting back the coastal bank and it is becoming a conservation issue. They are installing staircases that go down to the beach from their private properties and landing on town property. Also, the house on the corner of Regatta Road is severely encroaching onto the beach with their private property.

Other items the committee could look at would be docks and piers. There are lots of illegal docks and small piers that do not have permits.

One problem is that there is no public access to the water except through the beaches. Once the Fore River Bridge and the compressor comes in we may not have access to that waterfront.

There was a discussion on how and where we could create a waterfront walkway. The problem is there is private property all along the waterfront.

It was asked how much day lighting is going in at the Landing and Bob Luongo stated 150 feet of day lighting. There is a walkway up to the canoe launch and beyond. Is it feasible to extend this along the waterfront?

Is there an opportunity to connect the two beaches in North Weymouth? There was a brief discussion on how we could connect the two beaches with a walkway to try to get more usage on the two beaches.

Herb Clifford made a motion to have chairman Mutch and Bob Luongo identify potential possibilities of waterfront enhancements with a boardwalk from George Lane Beach to Wessagusset Beach and was seconded by Pat O'Leary.  
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Bob Luongo will arrange a walkthrough of this area with Mayor Hedlund and invite the committee members once he has a date.

### PROJECT UPDATES

### OTHER BUSINESS

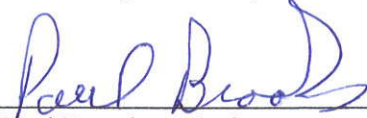
The next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

### ADJOURNMENT

Pat O'Leary made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm and was seconded by Nancy Blazo.  
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted by:

Lee Hultin  
Recording Secretary

  
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Paul Brooks, Clerk

  
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Date