

**TISBURY WATERWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 5:00pm

In Attendance: Jeff Canha (via zoom), Greg Martino (via zoom), Michael Baptiste, John Packer, Roger Moffat (via zoom), Paul Munafo and Matt Hobart

Also Present: John Crocker, Danielle Ewart, Kim Elias, Colleen Wilson, Lynne Fraker, Mary Ellen Larson, Nevin Syre, Jean Lewellyn, Sandy Cannon-Brown, Bev Potstad, Bob Landreth, Melinda Loberg, Gorga Darby, Pam Bennett, Jason Robertson,

- 1) **Call to Order 05:03pm:** Matt Hobart, Chair.
- 2) **Public Comment:** Lynne Fraker wanted to ask that for the next meeting to consider adding articles and warrants for FY24 to the agenda. Warrants are due in December and to look at anything that the committee might want to present or what the Harbor Department is proposing.
- 3) **Minutes:** Matt Hobart asked that the committee review the minutes of September 15 and October 13, 2022. He entertained a motion. Lynne Fraker asked if Kim Elias had received her email with additional corrections. Kim acknowledged receipt but had not made changes and stated it was at the committee pleasure to decide if they wanted to accept them or not. Matt Hobart also received the same email. John Packer made a motion to accept the minutes of September 15, 2022 and Michael Baptiste seconded.

(Voted 5-0)

John Packer made a motion to accept the minutes of October 15, 2022 and Michael Baptiste seconded.

(Voted 5-1)

- 4) **Set date for site visit with Open Space Committee for potential relocation of Natural Resource Office at Owen Park:** John Crocker informed the committee that there had been some conversations going on with the Open Space Committee for some time. The thought has been to move the building over to the other side of the parking area and possibly separating the showers from the building. It has been suggested to have a brief site visit to the location to brainstorm some ideas. After a brief discussion. John Packer made a motion to meet just before the next meeting in December at Owen Park with the option to reconvene at the EMS building for the Waterways Committee. Kim Elias will reach out to the Open Space Committee to contact Matt Hobart with a convenient date and time.
- 5) **Misuse of Water at Town Landings:** Danielle Ewart explained that there has been ongoing problems with people misusing water at the Town Landings, particularly the Lagoon such as washing their vehicles and in some cases washing their boats using harmful cleaning chemicals that is harmful to marine life. The Natural Resource Office were going to put up signs at each

location. There was lengthy discussion with respect to water use and type of cleaning alternatives. John Crocker spoke about the enforcement issue, however felt that the signs were a deterrent. Michael Baptiste recommended using the signs. Jeff Canha stated that there were a couple of items on the sign that he wanted to address, although he not opposed to it, however it is not currently a regulation. Kim Elias stated that the water use could be something to add to the waterways regulations at later date. Matt Hobart said that it was a good start. Danielle had spoken to Fishing Access have placed signs in the landings to ask if they can replace their faded signs. She explained that the Landing in the Lagoon get misused a lot. Matt Hobart stated that although there is no statute yet relating to violations, it may be reviewed by the Committee to discuss and add to the Waterways Regulations John Packer made a motion and Michael Baptiste seconded to recommend using the signs with some minor corrections, as a good start.

(Voted 5-1)

- 6) **Woods Hole Group – Dredge Permits Update:** John Crocker read email received from Leslie Fields to the Waterways Committee as Follows:

Sediment Sampling and Testing – Completed Work

Coordination with Mass DEP and the US Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) May to July

Sediment sampling at Vineyard Haven Harbor, Lake Tashmoo, and Lake Street dredge sites was completed on June 21 to July 1

Sediment cores split, sub-sampled and sent to the laboratories for analysis June 22 to July 5

Grab samples from beach nourishment sites collected on June 27

Grain size data returned to Woods Hole Group July 1 to July 14

Release of sediment samples from the Lake Street and Vineyard Haven Harbor areas for sediment chemistry analysis based on feedback from the US Army Corps of Engineers on September 20

Sediment chemistry data returned to Woods Hole Group on October 12

Submittal of all sediment data (field notes and laboratory data) to USACE planned by November 23

Permitting – Upcoming Work

A decision was made to combine the Lake Tashmoo entrance channel and Lake Street dredging projects into one set of applications, and to prepare separate applications for the Vineyard Haven Harbor projects. This decision was made based on expected difficulties with review of the Vineyard Haven Harbor dredge permits and lack of compliance with eelgrass protection/monitoring during the previous 2014 dredging event. To avoid delays with issuance of the Lake Tashmoo permits because of the eelgrass issues, a decision was made to proceed with two separate permitting efforts so that the Lake Tashmoo work would not be help up.

Develop new plan set for Lake Tashmoo entrance channel and Lake Street showing new sample locations and post dredge bathymetry collected in 2020 planned by Dec. 15

File for Chapter 91 Waterways dredge permits for Lake Tashmoo entrance channel and Lake Street planned by Dec. 24

File for 401 Water Quality Certification for Lake Tashmoo entrance channel and Lake Street planned by Dec. 24

File for modification to existing USACE permit for Lake Tashmoo entrance channel and Lake Street planned by Jan. 15, 2023

File for extension of local Order of Conditions by Sep. 2023 (one month prior to expiration)

Coordinate with Dukes County re placement of dredged sediment from behind the breakwater at Eastville planned for Jan. 2023

File for all remaining permits for Vineyard Haven Harbor planned by March 2023

The following Table shows the history of dredging at all three sites. I'm still looking for the cost info.

Dredge Site	Year(s) Dredged	Volume(s) Dredged (cy)	Placement Location(s)
Lake Tashmoo Entrance Channel	Nov.-Dec. 2020	9,240	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach & Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Beach
	Winter 2018	9,500	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach & Martha's Vineyard Land Bank Beach
	Dec. 2013	9,800	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach
	2006	10,000	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach
	2004	6,000	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach
	2002	10,000	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach
	2000	6,000	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach
	1998	9,800	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach
Lake Street Pier	Jan. 2021	105	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach
	~ 2000	100	Lake Tashmoo Town Beach
Back Channel	Jan. 2014	28,880	Grove Ave. & western harbor shorelines
	1997	20,080	Eastville upland area
Breakwater	1997	16,830	Eastville upland area



Lynne Fraker stated she was confused as to why having to wait for Tashmoo Channel Dredge in 2022. She did not understand when all the Tashmoo permits are in place why it became mixed up. Bob Landreth stated that Tashmoo had a big problem at the entrance channel and felt it was totally unsatisfactory and may have an impassable channel this year. Lynne Fraker asked why the Town is not dredging if the permits are in place and felt that something was wrong. Jeff Canha asked for a scanned copy of the email. Kim Elias said she would scan a copy to everyone on the Committee. Matt Hobart asked if there were funds available at this time to dredge. He asked if John Crocker would contact Leslie Fields to see if the Town can expedite a dredge of the Tashmoo

Channel. John Crocker said would reach out to Leslie Fields. Bob Landreth asked for dredging history dates of Tashmoo. After further discussion Jeff Canha asked that John Crocker check with the Edgartown Dredge Committee if there was a window of opportunity before January 15 to dredge.

- 7) **Tashmoo Management Plan:** Greg Martino began the discussion by recapping in either dealing with the Anchoring in Tashmoo through the Town's Waterways Regulations or to go through DCPC. He felt it was a bigger discussion, and to open it up as a separate agenda item for more interested people to attend at a future meeting. Lynne said she thought that the Management Plan was important and would like to look at into Tashmoo. Matt Hobart opened discussion for Tashmoo. Bob Landreth stated that there were water quality issues such as storm water and asked if the committee wanted to weigh in on those issues. He stated that Lake Tashmoo is currently just below the maximum acceptable nitrogen limit that the Mass Estuaries Project established specifically for Tashmoo (.36ml per liter). Matt Hobart said that in the past there had been a lot of discussion regarding eel grass and water quality issues and that Town has been trying to put in regulations regarding fertilizers and trying to fix number of other water quality issues. There was further discussion regarding septic systems and ground water. The discussion moved off topic, however the discussion moved to a broader picture regarding a management plan for all the Tisbury Waterways. Matt Hobart asked if Kim Elias could reach out to members of other committees such as the Water Resource Committee and invite any members who wish to attend, a Waterways Committee meeting, so that they might let this Committee know how they can help.

Discussion moved on to the Tashmoo Dinghy Dock Reconfiguration. Some issues were raised regarding shallow water. Paul Munafo said that he would still like Simone Wright of DMF to do a survey of the area. He said that there has been a lot of community support and that he was in the process of trying to get the support of Jay Grande and the Select Board. Paul Munafo stated that he was Chair of the Community Preservation Committee and knows that the CPC would be very supportive of the project and therefore would be a good funding source. John Packer raised the eel grass increase or whether it had remained the same. He said that perhaps for the greater good it would be better to step on a little eel grass at the proposed reconfiguration and leave the rest alone undisturbed. And not have dinghies being pulled up in the marshes. Ray Gale had put a float out at last low tide and measured 27 inches. Danielle met with Ray Gale and Paul at the site and was told it would prevent people from falling in the water but not prevent the number of dinghies. Paul explained that it would increase the amount of dockage space for the dinghies. Danielle thought that they should think about hiring an Environmental Consultant instead of asking Simone to do a survey. Kim Elias thought that what really needed to happen, and she would check with Pam Bennett, as part of the charge, as an advisory committee and not a decision-making authority. To take it to the select board and provided they were on board with it, move forward. There is also a funding issue, if an environmental consultant is needed, that it was not budgeted for FY23. Matt entertained a motion. Paul suggested also asking if we would

apply for funding. The project is not currently budgeted. Jeff Canha made a motion and John Packer seconded to:

Recommend to the Select Board, after discussion regarding the Lake Street Landing Dinghy Reconfiguration, that the Tisbury Waterways Committee bring the concept as drawn to the Select Board for suggestions. (Voted 6-0)

Paul Munafo is also reaching out to the Select Board. Jeff suggested that as Paul is the representative for the committee on the project, that he could go to the Select Board meeting and speak on their behalf when it is on their agenda for discussion.

At 06:31pm John Packer made a motion to adjourn, and Michael Baptiste seconded. **(Voted 6-0)**

Documents:

Email from Leslie Fields, Woods Hole Group

Draft minutes September 15, 2022

Draft minutes October 13, 2022

Draft Sign for Water Use on Town Piers

Copy of Low Tide at Proposed Dinghy Dock Relocation