

**TISBURY WATERWAYS COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 5:00pm

Meeting held remotely via Zoom platform

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

Also Present: John Crocker, Danielle Ewart, Doug Reece, Melinda Loberg, Bev Potsaid, Lynn Fracker, Ray Gale, Larry Gomez, Jay Grande, Jeff Kristal, Anna Fay Lawton.

1) **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 5:04pm.

(Members Roger Moffat and Paul Munafo were unable to vote in this meeting. Remaining 5 members made up quorum)

- a) **Vote Committee Positions:** There was a motion for Jeff Canha as Chair and seconded. **Voted (4-0).** There was a motion for Matt Hobart as Vice Chair and seconded. **Voted (4-0).** There was a motion for Kim Elias as Secretary and seconded. **Voted (5-0)**
- b) **Establish regular meeting schedules:** After discussion there was a motion and seconded for the Waterways Committee to meet on the 2nd Thursday of every month at 5:30 pm. **Voted (5-0)**
- c) There was discussion to allow a three-minute public comment at the beginning of future meeting. It was also noted that part of the Charge to allow public participation and comment. There was a motion and seconded to allow a three-minute public comment at the beginning of all future meetings. **Voted (5-0)**

2) **Chair Opened up meeting for Discussion Items:**

- a) **Discuss Charge as directed by Board of Selectmen:** There was discussion regarding the Charge as directed by the Select Board. After clarification regarding the make up of the Natural Resource Office which consists of two independent departments. All agreed that the Charge was very clear.
- b) **Harbormaster intro and current report:** John Crocker gave a general overview of the Harbor Department. He explained that revenue was down in June by approximately 30% and down by 15% in July and August. All this was due to COVID-19 restrictions. An IFB for a new Patrol Boat is scheduled to go before the Select Board on December 29, 2020. Jay Grande offered to speak the Select Board to ascertain whether they can review the IFB with the Waterways Committee before the December 29 meeting. The Tashmoo Dredge Project was moving along and may be completed in the next week or so. The process for Dredge Project for the Lake Street Bulkhead is moving forward. The Woods Hole Group are monitoring both projects. Woods Hole Group were also hired to wrap the Harbor and Tashmoo into a comprehensive 10-year permit. It is hopeful that the Harbor Dredge will take place in the Fall of 2021. As a matter of full disclosure, John Packer informed the Committee that he has been giving informal advice with regards to the Harbor Dredge

Project. With respect to the Owen Park Pier Project, it was explained that the Harbor Department is currently looking at a floating concrete pier replacement

- c) **Shellfish Constable intro and current report:** Danielle Ewart gave an overview of the Shellfish Department. She informed the Committee that she had been busy for her department which is made up of herself and two seasonal part time staff members, as more people spent time away from other people during the COVID restrictions. She has been continuing to assist DMF with their water sampling after the initial closure of the Lagoon Pond. Part of the Lagoon Pond has now reopened. The family shellfish day did not happen this year, but she is hopeful that it will resume next year. Danielle explained that the scallop season had been slim this year. Since the approval of the Town's Aquaculture Regulations there have been two applications. Residents and non-residents are now purchasing their permits at the Natural Resource Office and over the phone. There was discussion with respect to water quality and how it was monitored. Melinda Loberg suggested that the committee invite TWI at a future meeting to explain how they monitor and test the waters. TWI donated water testing equipment to the Town and testing is done at the DPW lab. It was suggested that the Shellfish Constable make a presentation explaining the activities of the Shellfish Department be added as a future agenda item. In the meantime, Danielle said she would be happy to provide data and information to the Committee if requested.
- d) **Invite Woods Hole Group for presentation of Tashmoo Dredge:** Jeff Canha as the committee members if they would be interested in inviting the WHG to make a presentation and update on the progress of the Dredge Project. Kim Elias will contact Leslie Field at the Woods Hole Group and extend the invitation for the next committee meeting.
- e) **Brief overview of the Waterways Regulations, Shellfish Regulations and Aquaculture Regulations:** The Waterways Regulations went through an overhaul and recommendations to make changes went to the Select Board. Because there were so many changes it was sent back to the prior committee for further review. Because there were so many changes this will require an agenda that can accommodate a concentrated effort to move forward. This will be added as a dedicated agenda item at a future date. The shellfish regulations were updated and approved in 2018. There have been some additional suggested changes, Danielle will forward these to the committee members to review. Aquaculture regulations were adopted in 2019. All the regulations are available to the public and can be found on the department's web pages.

There was a motion to adjourn which was seconded

It was requested the agenda at future meetings be kept at a realistic content. So subject items can be covered in the time frame allotted.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm

Next meeting: January 14, 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom Platform.

Tasks: Invite Woods Hole Group to January 14, 2021 meeting.

