



The Harbor and Waterfront Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 1, 2024

7:00 pm

First Floor Conference Room

Town Hall

Received by Town Clerk
March 7, 2024 10:31 am

Jackson Schultz, Steve Speranza, Whisky, Scott McBurney (virtual), Lisa Boemer, Amy Powell, Ulf Westhoven, Alan VanArsdale, Peter Spellios, , Liz Smith, Jay Borkland and John McAllister from McAllister Engineering.

- 1) The meeting began with the approval of the minutes from 3 past meetings. 10/19, 11/6 and 11/13/2023. The vote was unanimous.
- 2) The conversation turned to where we are towards reaching the 60% design goal for the new pier. Let's begin which with a review:
 - a) We filed a Notice of Intent (NOI) with Swampscott's Con Com regarding the test borings we plan to do in the Harbor, one on land and 3 under water.
 - b) They asked us to also file a NOI with the Department of Marine Fisheries (DMF)
 - c) Due to their concerns about the eel grass, DMF wanted us to film a 25' radius around the potential 3-4" boring hole where we plan on doing our 3 under water test borings. Those pictures were then rejected for not being clear enough.
 - d) They then said for us to send down a hard hat diver to film the areas to get clearer pictures.
 - e) Two attempts were scheduled but had to be canceled due to bad weather conditions.
 - f) The locations for the borings were chosen where there were already mooring chain scars so not to disturb eel grass.

- g) This probably means we will need to ask Seaport Economic Council for an extension on our grant deadline between 3-6 months. HWAC Chair will follow up with a phone call to Ellen Cebula at Seaport to give her a heads up that this request will likely be forth coming.
 - h) The plan going forward will be to shoot for diving in March, borings in April and then go back in June/July to document what happened in those areas.
- 3) From there we discussed how we might team up with the groups concerned about the pollution at Fishermen's Beach. Oysters filter 50 gallons of water a day. If we were to seed the living reef with oysters, that could help with the problem. Also team up with the schools, Aqua Culture.
 - 4) In regards to the HWAC's upcoming presentation at the 2/7 Select Board meeting, Jackson and Jay will put together a power point presentation to augment the discussion. Peter Spellios said for us to hyper focus on resiliency. Articulate concerns for the businesses on Humphry Street as well as the vulnerability of the Fish House. "What happens if tomorrow you wake up after a storm and there is no pier? What impact would that have on the community?"
 - 5) Jay mentioned that Maura Healy created a new position of Climate Chief and she appointed Melissa Hoffer to that position. She is someone we need to meet with.
 - 6) With no public comment, the meeting was adjourned.