

Meeting Minutes October 11,2017

Steve Speranza, Sub for Chair Jackson Schultz

Attendees: Scott McBurney, Steve Speranza, Milton Fistel, Ulf Westhoven, Larry Sweazy, Whiskey Wolinski, Jay Borkland, Amy Powell, Shannon Cudmore

Actions:

Review Fish House Property Repair, update

Fish House property assessment: Jackson Schultz, Geno Cresta, Sean Lennon met Tom Maguire (SYC) at the Fish House for a facility evaluation and to target problem areas. They were to discuss general maintenance of the facility.

Proposing 1st to patch roof. Possibly Fall of 2017

Jackson Schultz Proposal for Fish House repair/maintaining building

Use all fees (\$) collected from Boating/Harbor related activities to fund the repair and maintenance of the facility.

Potential sources: Pram, Boat Storage, Mooring Fees, SYC Rent & Locker fees

Board of Selectmen would need to vote for funding allocations of the Fish House. HWAC should request a proposal.

Widen / Lengthen Pier: Harbor Master (HM) also in favor specifically for emergency vehicle access. HM also would support improving the lighting on the pier. Jackson: would lengthen to resolve problems with depth so larger boats could docking at the pier. (Possible temp solution for Dredging /Eel Grass issues due to available budget, grants and Federal Restrictions)

Discussion:

Steve S: 50K still in the Bank. Question as if the funds from dredging could be transferred for the Breakwater. Milton: mentioned the money is in the general fund but spoke of 'where' / if available. Not for breakwater. Ulf: Asked how is the money controlled? Milton: Advised funding & process required. Millton: was to make contacts with city to identify the status of the 50K.

Steve S: Fish House is deteriorating primarily due to weather exposure due to ocean proximity and no continuous building maintenance program. Deterioration of wood components in key external areas is a problem. Suggested using 'Composite' wood alternative for windows, railings, decking. DPW is repairing parts of the Town Hall is using Composite wood products. Composite material would probably have to be approved by the Historical Commission. Jackson is working on this issue.

Round Table Comments: General input with resolution that short and long term the Breakwater/Living Reef is the center of the plan. If it goes, there will be a positive Domino Effect around the harbor area.

Status of Harbor Plan

Ramboll: (Jay Borkland, Tufts)

Present & discuss the status of Harbor Plan – Living Reef to be included- Spoke of general schedule for the plan to be completed and available for review.

Key Points

Start Permitting process. Possible earliest is 1 yr.

Harbor Plan is a mechanism to get a Breakwater discussion going.

Where & when will opposition to the project come from. We must get out in front of it. Our current \$50 K dredging funds can't be used for the breakwater but get public buy-in. Then get regulations back in with EPA.

Milton: Again brought up the 50K dredging money ... we need to find out exactly where it is and can we get it. He would pursue this!!

Ulf: We need to identify those who are for & against the Living Reef.

Angie: referenced to the Historic District Commission and the Rockland St permit problems & neighborhood concerns.

Steve S: Requested a copy of the "Master Plan" for review in advance, "Water Front Improvement Plan"

Ramboll (Jay): Do we put \$ funding/budget into the proposal?

Whiskey: he used the Rail Trail funding example and questioned is the actual money going to be spent?

Jay: Discuss the proposed position of the living reef.

Circulated harbor model showing a shape and placement

It would cut waves and minimize the potential for damage to mooring field and surrounding property

Milton: Swampscott has no sight view restrictions from the surround harbor properties.

Jay: Aquaculture opportunities. Living reef can be a source for supporting scallop, shellfish, lobster beds. Steve spoke of examples and Marblehead wishing to form a shell fish Commission. Swampscott has no one managing shell fish development.

Steve S: Commented about the dwindling supply of commercial lobster and fishermen involved with our harbor and fish house. Jay: Manchester By The Sea received state funding \$ to dredge because fishermen could not get out of the harbor!

Jay: How does the public come into Swampscott and where do they park?

“A general table group discussion”

Parking is a problem: What are solutions, Trolly, bikes, remote parking with bus local service?

Why do people come to Swampscott? Beaches! Town History (Lobster Trap & Dory)! Celebrities such as Calvin Coolidge, Mary Baker Eddy, State Governor reside here.

Need to develop ideas as to more historical reasons to visit!

Do we need a brochure, ‘Getting Around to Beaches of Swampscott’?

Jay: As a committee what are the 3-5 things that we want to develop with this Harbor plan? Need further discussion..! We must review the original Harbor Plan. It is necessary that the Harbor Master & HWAC all pushing the economic advantages that will promote the Living Reef project.

Steve S: While speaking of "Town" beaches, Kings Beach problem with bacteria/sewer was directed to Sean. He says the 'Town' is doing the repairs!

Jay: Asked as to the Rail Trail progress. Does the trail get close to the beach? How does this tie into parking available transportation to the beach? How does the Train station connection to downtown and beaches?

"Group Focus / Discussion": 'Why do people come to Swampscott' question suggesting we should contact groups such as the Beautification Committee (John McLaughlin is Chair), 'For the love of Swampscott Organization', Town Recreation Dept, and Small local businesses. (Arts, Business Recreation)

Adjourned