

Harbor Development Committee: Town of Hingham

Minutes of September 22, 2016 Meeting at Hingham Town Hall

1) Call to Order at 7:04 p.m.

2) Attendees: Bill Reardon, Deirdre Anderson, Paul Losordo, Ed Morris, Brian Knies, Tom Coveney and Eric Kachel: Not Attending: Ken Corson, Harbormaster

3) The committee approved the minutes of August 18, 2016 meeting.

4) The committee discussed the recent news on the Route 3A corridor and options with DCI and the Town of Hingham. Deirdre and Roger Fernandez have been assigned as the liaisons between the HDC and the State. The discussion was led by Deirdre and Bill on the CTSP study, potential two lanes leading to rotary, potential lights, change to roundabout, potential land gains around the rotary and surrounding area, funding from the State.

The discussions between the Town of Hingham and DCI are still on-going. DCI is waiting on feedback from Ted Alexiades, Harry Sylvester and Roger on next steps.

The overall plans are still in process and Deirdre will keep us updated on next steps and neighbors feedback on the suggested changes.

There was a small discussion on Steamboat Wharf viability and options and discussion on traffic flow from Hull and Hingham.

5) The committee was updated on the completion of the work at Whitney Wharf Bridge. The bridge was completed with 5 coats of stain that should last for 10-12 years. One outstanding issue is to follow up with Nick Bonn on lattice under pedestrian ramp and fence surrounding dumpsters. Paul Lasordo was to follow up on issues and potential memorial bench. It was suggested that Deirdre would contact Hingham Historical Commission on approval of fence by writing a letter. Paul was assigned as the contact to finalize with Nick Bonn.

6) Adcom Meeting was attended by Bill on September 14, and he presented the wharf priorities for the HDC and discussed background and Beals & Thomas (B & T) study associated with the priorities at the meeting. Bill also presented budget funds needed and required for completion of the B & T work on other lower priority wharves. Bill specifically discussed the immediate priority which are the repairs necessary at the Town Pier wharf and the allocation of budgeted money to be used immediately to begin the engineering design for necessary repairs.

Bill laid out the plans for the other wharfs and waterfront and will present the same HDC priorities on the wharfs at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on September 30, 2016.

7) CPC Discussion on potential applications for HDC initiatives. The CPC was very supportive of potential harbor walkway and design but no formal approval was forthcoming until the application is submitted, reviewed and approved. This was a first positive step in updating the CPC on HDC potential plans.

8) Bathhouse/ Concession Stand discussion was based around location, RFP and timing. This is a Bathing Beach Trustees issue and decision and HDC does not have any authority in the negotiations.

There was a discussion surrounding the approval process for the Bathhouse/ Concession and meeting with the Fire Dept., Police, Sewer, Conservation etc. and making sure all departments are on board with the plans.

There was discussion on parking, Farmers Market issues and planning the location of the Bathhouse/ Concession stand.

There was a discussion of a Bathing Beach walkway meeting up with the HDC plans on an HDC walkway at the Harbor and making sure we are consistent in our plans and message with the Town.

9) Continuing a discussion from the August 18 meeting, a final vote was taken on "Goal Setting" for HDC in 2016-2017 and options on improving the overall harbor experience for the Town. Each member ranked the goals by order of priority. When mathematically averaged, the top rankings in order were: 1) wharf survey/sea level rise resiliency, 2) tie between extending Harbor Walk and updating Harbor Landscape Master Plan and 3) tie between boat ramp replacement and better connections between Harbor and downtown Hingham.

The entire list of goals considered was:

- Wharf Survey Progress.
- Extend Harbor Walkway.
- Better Connection from Hingham Downtown to Harbor.
- Update landscape plans and tie into Route 3A improvements.
- Boat ramp replacement.
- Solicit increased public access and awareness of HDC processes.
- Initiate Harbor Dredging cycle.
- Develop revised mooring regulations.
- Increase transient boater access to town and services.

10) There was no Harbormaster report. Ken was unable to attend.

11) Harbor play area. Meeting scheduled on September 30, 2016 with DCR contact and Recreation commission to discuss options. The Recreation Committee team is to update the Board of Selectmen on options.

12) The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday night, October 26, at 7:00 p.m.

13) The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.