

Minutes of the March 2, 2016 Hingham Harbor Development Committee Meeting

Attending: HHDC: W. Reardon, E. Kachel, E. Morris, B. Knies, P. Losordo, D. Anderson, T. Coveney

Bathing Beach Trustees: Alan Perrault, Chris Daly

Harbormaster: Ken Corson

Selectman: Mary Power

Audience: Rosamund Conroy from Hingham Maritime Center (formerly Lincoln Maritime Center),
John Thomas (former HHDC member)

7:00 PM -- Town Hall

1. Approved minutes of January 19, 2016 with minor edits.
2. Eric Las from Beals and Thomas presented their report on Phase 1 of the town owned harbor wharf survey. The report was broken down in great detail by 8 sections/reports and included recommendations and proposed priorities for repairing or replacing sections of seawall along the town owned wharves.
3. Alan Perrault updated the committee on the Bath house/snack shop. The Massachusetts Seaport Economic Development Grant of \$700,000 was approved to the Town's benefit. Although the project may now be in the geographic jurisdiction of the Harbor Development Committee, the Bathing Beach Trustees will continue to be the driving force behind the project. Rosamund Conroy from Hingham Maritime reiterated the importance of not having two facilities with the name Hingham Maritime applying for the same grant money. The Committee discussed soliciting an architect prior to town meeting in order to get a head start. This would be to enable whoever occupies the building to weigh in on the design. There is an expiration to the Seaport grant money if it is not used by a certain date. Deirdre Anderson expressed concern that the Bathhouse/snackshack concept should be thoroughly vetted by the town prior to moving forward. BBTrustees Chair Alan Perrault assured the Committee that the permitting process would be very thorough and transparent to all voters before the concept is finalized
4. Roger Fernandes updated the committee on the Bathing Beach parking lot seawall and pedestrian walkway. A final submittal on the desired block is expected this week and once approved could be ready for installation in two weeks. With the project expected to take three to four weeks it could possibly be complete before the end of April.
5. The construction of the Whitney Wharf Bridge has begun. Land owner agreed to extension of construction period and signed revised Memorandum of Understanding re: real estate easement . Roger Fernandes and Eric Las from Beals and Thomas met with York to discuss the light post bases to be installed.
6. The committee discussed updating 2007 master plan for the harbor. Funding for the landscape design could potentially come from the Greenbush Mitigation fund.

7. 3A traffic study – The Selectmen have approved a contract with DCI and a kickoff meeting with Town Engineer Roger Fernandes is planned soon. The committee discussed likelihood of the rotary becoming a roundabout and Summer Street becoming a “complete street,” which is designed for multiple modes of transportation. Roger mentioned that a roundabout is desired but may not offer the same level of traffic service as the rotary or a T intersection. There is clearly a need for a two lane roundabout in any case.
8. The next meeting was scheduled for April 13