



Harbor Development Committee Minutes

January 14, 2021

Members: W. Reardon (Chair), D. Anderson, M. Boer, P. Branagan, S. Darby, K. Doran, P. Gannon,

Others: Alan Perrault (Bathing Beach Trustees), JR Frey (Town Engineer), Libby Claypoole (Advisory Committee Liaison), Ken Corson (Harbormaster) and members of the public via Zoom

1. **Call to order and reading of disclaimer:** 7:36pm
2. **Approval of minutes:** from December 15, 2021 HDC meeting and Joint Meeting with CONCOM on January 11, 2021

3. New Matters

a. MBTA Hingham Ferry Docks Improvement Project – Branagan

Peter Branagan provided an overview of the project based on the recent 30% plan update meeting he attended. The project is fully funded at \$17M and construction is anticipated to last a year, starting the Fall of 2022. Planned improvements include the following elements: safety; lighting; resiliency; and increased accessibility and capacity for vessels and docking. Concerns include: the impact on slips, boats and the mooring field; and potential need to reposition the floats to accommodate front loading boats.

4. Open Issues (Recurring matters):

a. CPC Grant Request for “Harbor Vision Study” – Boer/Reardon/Perrault

CPC approved \$60K to fund the study. Assuming positive recommendations from the Board of Selectmen and Advisory Committee and an affirmative vote at the 2021 Annual Town Meeting, the next steps would include undertaking a formal RFP process which will be jointly led by Marco Boer (Harbor Committee) and Alan Perrault (Bathing Beach Trustees).

b. Route 3A Task Force Update – Anderson

The task force will meet on January 26 as a follow-up to the public feedback meeting on January 8 and recent MassDOT updates. The task force is considering a warrant article to request additional funding.

c. Harbormaster matters – Corson

Funding has been approved for the construction and delivery of a new boat. The staff has received Covid-19 vaccinations. Harbormaster Corson anticipates they will do additional hiring this summer.

The Harbor Committee reaffirmed its support for the Harbormaster's proposed changes to the mooring regulations.

d. Town Wharf Projects – Reardon/Frey

Discussion included a recap of the January 11 joint meeting with Conservation Commission. JR Frey is comparing existing and updated sea level data and will request consulting assistance to model tide and wave action before and after the proposed designed reconstruction of Town Pier Wharf.

After extensive discussion of the merits of the current design, developed over the last two years, the Committee voted and unanimously approved insertion of a 2021 warrant article asking voters to approve and fund the project.

5. Other Matters

Chairman Reardon informed the Committee of the upcoming January 27 MAPC Stakeholder Meeting. This will be the fourth meeting and it will include a "Public Realm" discussion. Other updates included notice that the owner of the Hingham Harbor Marina is planning to add up to 30 additional slips.

6. Questions from the Public: None

7. Next Meeting Date: February 17, 7:30pm

8. Adjournment: 10:01pm