

Fairhaven Marine Resources Committee
Meeting Minutes: February 3, 2021-2022

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Present In Person & Via Zoom: Harbormaster Tim Cox, Chairman Mike McNamara, Robert Hobson, Michelle Potter, Dave Hebert, Andrew Jones

Absent: Select Board Member Keith Silvia, Eric Dawicki

Chairman McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from December 2, 2021 by Mr. Hobson. Seconded by Mr Hebert. Motion passed unanimously.

Review NMI's use of Hoppy's Landing as a Marine Resource Center:

Harbormaster Cox informed the committee that after speaking with Building Commissioner Chris Carmichael, putting a trailer or shed on the premises is not permitted do to the area being a velocity flood zone. They will continue to pursue other avenues for a Marine Resource Center.

Hoppy's Parking Meter:

Chairman McNamara reviewed the expenditures versus revenue at Hoppy's Landing regarding the Parking Meter. It was found that the meter is causing a loss of revenue at the boat ramp. Discussion ensued regarding meter costs. Chairman McNamara suggested bringing the issue forward to the Select Board with a recommendation to remove the meter to see how it goes. Mr. Hebert made the motion bring the issue of pulling the meter for a year and go back to the old envelope system to see how the revenue looks to the Select Board. Mr. Hobson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman McNamara will write a letter to get this issue onto the next Select Board meeting.

The subject of grass cutting was also addressed. Mr. Hobson will bring the issue to the BPW and ask for help to help reduce cost of the lawn maintenance.

The topic of paying for parking and parking issues at Hoppy's will be revisited at the next meeting.

Chairman McNamara then asked about the state of the ramp at Hoppy's. Harbormaster Cox noted it is in good condition, they last about 30 years. This ramp is only about 12 years old and is inspected annually. It is pulled out every five years to repair as needed.

Harbormaster Updates:

Still working on the davit on Union Wharf. Need some fabricated items. Once weather is dry it will be finished.

The Town Planner, Mr. Paul Foley, is still working on the feasibility study for Union Wharf as well. Lining the parking lot is included in the study.

Mr. Hobson asked about the slip and parking lot that the Shipyard wanted to take over. Harbormaster Cox did not have an update on that.

Mr. Hobson also noted that he would like to see Harbormaster Cox have another full time deputy. Harbormaster Cox let the committee know he will be hiring and will have 5 part time deputies to help.

Harbormaster Cox stated the final plan for Phase V dredging should be done in February. He will be attending a meeting on Monday for more information.

Chairman McNamara asked about the West Island Dredging from Foth Engineering. We have to go to the state for funding then we can ask for the match at the Town Meeting.

Mr. Hobson asked about the 'junky boat' at Union Wharf and when it was going to be leaving. Mr. Cox assured Mr. Hobson the boat will follow the new rules and regulations that were just passed at June Town Meeting. We will confirm with Town Council about when the catch report is due.

Shellfish Updates:

There was a statewide closure because of the storm. It has since been reopened.

We will be doing a joint project with NMI and Nature Conservancy on oyster rehabilitation in Lil Bay. They are going to grow out oyster from seedlings. Then restock the reef. David Bill from NMI noted it will be a \$800.00 donation to the Town, about 20,000 – 30,000 oysters. Harbormaster Cox is just monitoring project.

Harbormaster Cox will be sampling North Cove to confirm it can be reopened for shellfishing.

The next meeting will be March 3, 2022 and looking ahead the April meeting will be held on April 14, 2022 due to a scheduling conflict with the Harbormaster.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Hobson, Mr. Hebert seconded. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Sheri Souza
Recording Secretary

Approved March 3, 2022

