

**Fairhaven Marine Resources Committee  
Meeting Minutes: November 7, 2019**

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**Present:** Harbormaster Tim Cox, Frank Coelho, Michelle Potter, Mike McNamara, A 8:58  
David Hebert, Selectman Robert Espindola, Eric Dawicki

FAIRHAVEN,  
MASS.

Chairman Frank Coelho called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

**Approve Minutes of October 3, 2019:**

Mr. McNamara made a motion to approve the October 3, 2019 meeting minutes. Mrs. Potter seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Union Wharf Updates:**

Harbormaster Cox reiterated that we applied for 3 grants and have been denied one that we will reapply for in January. The other two were submitted by the Town Planner, Paul Foley. We have not heard back from those yet.

He also informed the committee that the signs are now up. There have been no issues.

**Boat Ramps:**

**a. Updates on Seaview ramp**

Chairman Coelho asked about the pitch at the Seaview Boat Ramp. Harbormaster Cox stated he asked Doug Cameron to put him on the list and is waiting to hear where we stand. There will be a work order put in on Monday to have the docks taken out within the next week or two. Harbormaster Cox mentioned they applied for a new grant today through NOAA that if rewarded the \$8,000.00 it will help supply a pump out station at Seaview. The station will be on a portable trailer so it can be moved if warranted. It will be advertised in order to get people to use it.

**b. Hoppy's Landing –brush removal**

Mr. Coelho and Harbormaster Cox appeared in front of the Select Board and received permission to apply for a permit via the Conservation Commission to maintain the brush by the rocks on the west side. Harbormaster Cox will be submitting the application to get on the agenda.

Selectman Espindola stated he need to leave the meeting early. Harbormaster Cox asked before he left if the West Island Seafood location discussion could be tabled until the next meeting because they were not notified they were on the agenda and had no representation at the meeting. Selectman Espindola agreed.

## **Harbormaster Updates:**

### **a. Aquaculture / Upweller Update**

Harbormaster Cox stated they had an issue with the Hoppy's Gangway. It has now been fixed. The dock is also broke, the steel plates from the Upweller pulled the wood right out. He has hired Fortress Mooring and Salvage to help repair with steel. He also let them know the Upweller had an issue during the storm as well but we didn't lose any of the baby quahogs. The baby quahogs will be planted Friday, the 15th as long as the weather cooperates. They will be bagged and then will be chained with a mooring off Egg Island. They will be wintered in the sand. In the spring they will be put back in the Upweller.

Harbormaster Cox updated the committee on the location of West Island Seafood. Stating he did as the committee asked and went out and checked on the site. The first yellow buoy coming outside of the channel was off about 5- 8 feet off at low tide but there is give there. The other corners were in the correct spots. Mr. Mike Botelho questioned how the location of that farm got placed so close to the marina because he feels it's dangerously close to the marina. He was told by the committee and Harbormaster Cox that it was placed there in the 1970's. It cannot be moved without getting the Coast Guard involved. Mr. Coelho went through the procedure. Per Harbormaster Cox the site is exactly where it's supposed to be. Harbormaster Cox also had a conversation with the owners of West Island Seafood that everything has to come up to compliance in the spring. Mr. Botelho asked why the site cannot be penned off so cages, etc. do not float out of designated area. Harbormaster Cox said per Mass Shellfish Association it can no longer be penned off because it cannot block navigation. Harbormaster Cox noted he is revamping the waterway rules and regulations and we can address aquaculture concerns into the new rules. Once new rules and regulations are approved we can invite all aquaculture owners to a meeting to discuss.

### **New Business:**

Harbormaster Cox gave everyone a rough draft of the timeline for draft of the new Waterway Rules & Regulations. Concern of the committee was that they may only have a week to review the new rules. Harbormaster Cox reiterated that this timeline was just a rough schedule. If we can't hit the dates, its fine to extend if need be.

Harbormaster Cox shared that he met with Clean Ocean Access. This is a company that makes dumpsters that collect ocean debris along with oil and diesel. He's looking into different avenues to access money to get one for Union Wharf. Also noted that Northeast Maritime Academy can possibly work with them as well because they having a teaching portion that comes along with the dumpster.

Mr. Dawicki asked about the West Island Dredging Project. Harbormaster Cox let him know that Foth Engineering is working on the dredge design. We should have a timeline soon. The committee agreed to keep this topic on the agenda.

**Next Meeting:**

The next meeting be held December 5, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Sheri Souza  
Recording Secretary

Approved 12/5/19

