

Minutes of the Truro Pamet Harbor Commission Meeting

Thursday, February 16th, 2023, 3:00 PM ET
24 Town Hall Road, Select Board Chambers, Truro MA 02666

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Attending Members:

Tim Silva, Chairman

Dave Crocker

John Donahue

Scott Donnelly

Eric Morea

Participating Guests:

Susan Areson, Truro Select Board Member

Tony Jackett, Harbormaster

Jarrold Cabral, Director, Truro DPW

Cynthia Conroy, Truro resident

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Order of Business:

1. Bringing the Meeting to Order

Chairman Silva called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM and declared that a quorum of full-time members was present.

2. Review and Approval of previous meeting's minutes

The Commission began with a review and discussion of the 12/22/2022 and 1/19/2023 meeting minutes. After a thorough vetting, Chairman Silva proposed a **Motion** to approve both sets, it was seconded by Dave, unanimously approved by the Commission Members and **Granted**.

3. Update on Dock Repairs

Tony and Eric discussed the status of the working docks' protective rubber fendering. Despite the Commission's recommendation at the last meeting that all docks be affixed with "a new 2 ½ inch white rubber strip around all sides of the docks to ensure more uniform, effective and permanent protection" they arrived with a thin gray strip. Eric and John requested that this be revisited and that new 2 ½ inch white fendering be applied instead. Tony expressed that for budgetary reasons, the Town will maintain the current fenders but reassess as the season progresses.

Office of Town Clerk

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9:30 AM

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By: 

4. Launch Ramp Repairs Status

DPW Director Jarrod Cabral reported that Doug Cameron (Director/Chief Engineer Department of Fish and Game Office of Fishing/Boating Access) surveyed the site on Thursday 1/26 and conveyed that the State would fund concrete repairs to mitigate the boater safety risk. Jarrod went on to say that Doug is launching a two-week contractor bid process and an expected circa 1-week incoming bids review before awarding the contract.

Jarrod is keeping Emily Beebe at the Truro Conservation Department in the loop on all aspects of the project. Current best estimate of project completion is in the end of June 2023 range.



5. North Jetty Erosion Mitigation

Jarrod relayed that a meeting took place earlier in the week led by Truro Select Board Vice-Chair Robert Weinstein, including various Truro Town Department Heads, along with Representative Sarah Peake (D: 4th Barnstable) and Senator Julian Cyr (D: Cape and Islands). Solutions and funding sources to mitigate the acute and accelerating erosion were discussed. Structural options explored ranged from extending the North Jetty to applying coconut coir rolls and constructing an extensive beach grassed sand dune barrier. Funding alternatives considered included reallocating existing Town unused dredging funds, State grants and Town free cash allocations.

Jarrod detailed that the Town's outside consultant on the matter, BSC Group Senior Ecologist Matthew Creighton recommends:

- launching a diagnostic/solutions study on the erosion dynamics (estimated \$42k cost),
- formulating a plan to install an extensive coconut coir roll wall, starting at 10 feet below the surface, and overlaying a substantial beach grassed sand dune across the current gap (estimated cost \$215k, not including the requisite annual sand replenishment and beach grass nurturing).

John asked why extending the existing granite North Jetty into the Corn Hill Beach dune was not the preferred immediate option. Jarrod conveyed that Matthew hypothesized that this solution would simply shift now incoming NW water flow northerly up Corn Hill Beach and exacerbate overall erosion of the area. John expressed his strong incredulity with this thesis and suggested that the Town engage a qualified Marine Hydrologist to evaluate and propose a solution.

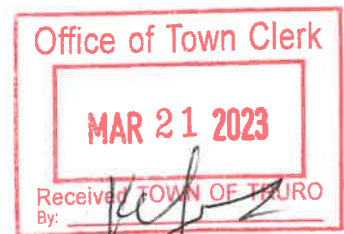
Scott asked if redeploying existing granite from both Jetties to create the extension (put forward at the last meeting) could be an expedited viable alternative, potentially avoiding complex layers of permitting and approvals. Following much discussion, the Commission asked Jarrod to invite BSC's Matthew Creighton to the next meeting to discuss all options.

After extensive debate, Chairman Silva formulated a **Motion** to fast-track deploying the coir roll/dune build up as an initial erosion mitigator while, the Town comprehensively study, alongside outside expert consultants, creating a North Jetty extension into the Corn Hill Beach Dune as a permanent, sustainable solution. The motion was seconded by Dave, unanimously approved by the Commission Members and **Granted**.

6. Mill Pond Project Update

As a follow up to last meeting's formal presentation (please see the January 19, 2023, minutes), Jarrod outlined the project's latest available studies, information, and likely

next steps. He relayed that a Public Information Session will be held at 5 PM ET on March 3rd at the Truro Community Center and that the Select Board will address the project at their upcoming March 28th meeting.



7. Dredging Plans and Timeline

Tony once again reported that the Barnstable County Dredger was still completing work at Sesuit harbor but likely to arrive in Truro next week (same status as four weeks ago).

He described that extensive severe weather and other Town's dredging project scope expansions have impaired the vessel's ability commence work in Truro. (2/23/2023 update: the Town requested and received another Winter Flounder Restriction extension for one day of dredging and is awaiting clarity on the vessel's ETA.)

8. Adjournment

After determining that all Commission business had been carried out, Chairman Silva proposed a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 PM, it was seconded by Dave, unanimously approved by the Commission Members and **Granted**.

Approved PHC

T. Silva Chair 3/16/23