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Minutes of the Truro Pamet Harbor Commission Meeting

Thursday, December 22nd, 2022, 12:30 – 1:30 PM ET 24 Town Hall Road, Select Board Chambers, Truro MA 02666

Attending Members:

Tim Silva, Chairman

Dave Crocker John Donahue Scott Donnelly Eric Morea

Participating Guests:

Susan Areson, Truro Select Board Member

Tony Jackett, Harbormaster

Order of Business:

1. Bringing the Meeting to Order

Chairman Silva called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM and declared that a quorum of full-time members was present. The attached agenda was reviewed, and the meeting was fully underway. Members welcomed Scott Donnelly (Full Member expires 6/30/2025) to his first Commission Meeting.

2. Meeting Minutes Review and Approval

Members studied the September 22, 2022, meeting minutes. After a brief discussion, the Chairman made a **Motion** for Approval, it was seconded by Dave, unanimously **Granted**, and submitted to the Town Clerk.

3. North Jetty Erosion Control and Extension Project

Commission members once again discussed the dune erosion, occurring at ever-increasing frequency, between the easternmost end of the North Jetty and the southernmost end of the Corn Hill Beach dune. John commented that the cadence and magnitude (>12 inches of water depth was measured at the most easterly jetty base) of total breach flowthrough is intensifying with our 2022 winter storms. The December 2022 photo attached in the Appendix, was shared at the meeting and depicts water rushing through the gap and the spit's deteriorating condition.

Tony reported that when 2023 dredging commences in January the initial target of displaced sediment will be to create a temporary barrier in this gap.

The Commission reinforced its advice that the Town heed previously Approved Motions on the matter including the following memorialized in the September 22, 2022, minutes:

"The Chairman introduced the notion of immediate, short-term solutions to mitigate the intensifying erosion including snow fences and the possible use of modified sandbags. After extensive debate, the Chairman made a **Motion** for Approval, requesting that the Select Board direct the appropriate town agencies to immediately coordinate installing temporary erosion control mechanisms at this gap including West facing snow fences and possibly erecting a wall of sandbags. This Motion was seconded by John and unanimously **Granted**.

This Motion is in addition to the **Motion Granted** at our August 19th, 2021, meeting, requesting that the Select Board seek "stakeholder approval and funding" for a permanent fix, extending the North Jetty into the dune."

4. DPW Matters: Town Launch Parking Lot Lines, Arrows and Signage

The Commissioners once yet again returned to the vehicle/vessel safety need to repaint the parking lot lines and to apply effective signage and arrow traffic guidance. Members were advised earlier in the morning that the DPW Director requested that his attendance be rescheduled until the following meeting.

A discussion ensured where some members expressed incredulity that such a seemingly simple, yet important safety need has not been acted on despite almost two years of consistent Commission-recorded advisement. Members were reminded that this counsel was again formalized in the below September 22, 2022, minutes:

"The Chairman put forth a **Motion** for Approval, <u>requesting that the Select Board direct the DPW to explain</u> the lack of response and most importantly to perform this requested work in April of 2023 and each April <u>subsequently</u>. This Motion was seconded by John and unanimously **Approved**."

5. Upcoming Dredging Plan and Timetable

Tony reported that Barnstable County dredging has been scheduled for late January. He cautioned that December winter weather conditions could place the County's timing at risk.

6. Open Discussion of other business

The Chairman encouraged any other business to be introduced and discussed during this segment.

- a. Tony indicated that the Truro Police Chief was less than enthralled with "the Whistler gun" being deployed for Harbor bird waste mitigation, citing safety, noise, and environmental concerns. Tony advised that he was now researching a hawk decoy system, currently applied in Chatham, as a potential option to address this issue.
- b. Member Eric Morea introduced six potential waterfront management improvement opportunities (accompanied with photos) for discussion and for Commission and Harbormaster's consideration:

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- extending the existing freshwater hose to the dock area to be used on a limited basis when appropriate,
- converting current temporary dock repair fixes to a more permanent and finished state,
- reshuffling current mooring locations in one specific row where a raft now extends excessively northward and at times impairs safe navigability,
- deploying a power washer on the dock when needed to remove bird waste and other debris,
- enhancing the protective coverage around all areas of the working docks to include uniform thick rubberized strips, corner protective covers and guards against metal hardware scrapes,
- shortening the dock lines attached to the working dock to mitigate prop wrap.

After an extensive and constructive dialogue on each of these matters, the Harbormaster advised that he would take each of them under his consideration during 2023 season commissioning. We'll revisit the status of these at our next meeting.

7. Adjournment

After determining all Commission business had been carried out, Chairman Silva proposed a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting at 1:30 PM, it was seconded by John and unanimously approved by the Commission Members and **Granted**.

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pac Chair

2/11/23

Appendix #1:

Photo is northerly facing south of the North Jetty highlighting heavy wave flowthrough and depleted sand (taken in December 2022)



