

MINUTES

Cohasset Harbor Committee

July 12, 2023

Attendees. Harbor Committee. George Baumgarten, Lisa Hewitt-Dick, Mike Sardina, Sean Kenealy, Lorri Gibbons, Susan Bryant. Others. Montana Cassel, Mike Dick

Meeting Recording. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oJybDoM1XbA>

Minutes from June 7, 2023 were accepted and approved.

Elections.

- Vice Chair. Lisa Hewitt-Dick nominated herself. Elected unanimously.
- Secretary. Susan Bryant nominated herself. Elected unanimously.

Montana Cassel – Grant Proposals.

1. Applied for two Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Coastal Resilience Grants for 2023.
 - a. Flood Mitigation Pathways Designs – raising Elm Street grass designs, Summer & Blackhorse retrofit tide gates, raise roadways there. \$120K
 - b. Working with Woods Hole Consulting and Weston & Sampson on 16 sewage manholes and repairing lines that have leakage. Grant approval decision expected in September.
2. Applied for two other grants with MVP 2.0 Seed Project 24-month program. Grant approval decisions expected in September.
 - a. MVP 1.0 Planning Grant – Alternative Energy Committee
 - b. CZM Water Quality Grant – resiliency study w Straits Pond Watershed Association, and the Town of Hull. If accepted Implementation in 2025.
3. Mike Sardina asked about raising the road to 12.8'? Raising Summer street 3' as a dike and then everything toward the Gulf River gets flooded. Is this acceptable for residents? Weston & Sampson studying this.
4. Montana asked HC members to complete the resiliency survey that she sent recently. Montana is planning to host environmental seminars every other month starting in September including grants and projects that are happening.

Harbor Master Report.

1. People are happy with ramp. (Lorri Gibbons)
2. Wishes some improvements or arrangements could be made for small boat launching – kayaks, SUPS, dinghies. (Susan Bryant)

Government Island Pier

1. NOI process is with town Conservation. Issuance of EOEA ENF certificate, then need to get town approval, then DEP, Army Corps, and CZM for permits this fall. That will have completed 1st phase. (based on call between George Baumgarten and Carlos Pena, Engineer at FOTH)
2. Cohasset Conservation Commission, May 25 reviewed the pier. Next review August 3. (George Baumgarten from Tom Bell)
3. Preliminary cost estimate \$4-5 million will require town meeting approval of Cohasset budget contribution: 25% of the cost = \$1-1.25 million.
4. Will apply to Seaport Economic Development Council. Grant filing due October 1.
5. Capital Budget, along with Advisory, has been trying to get long range financial planning board going. Resiliency projects and Government Island Project have not been itemized or added to a master list. He is happy to bring that to Capital Budget. (Mike Dick)

Cohasset Harbor Infrastructure Planning (CHIP) Working Group

1. Feasibility studies for **Captain's Walk**, from Government Island extending to NW corner of Butler estate. Desired to connect it to Elm Street improvements and sidewalks. **Elm Street** studied in 2020 by engineering firm, with Elm Street Corridor Working Group (Mike Sardina)
2. A group of citizens is seeking to acquire the Butler Estate through a non-profit organization, to give townspeople access to that land, publicly accessible, and additional functions that are harbor related. (Mike Sardina)
3. Proposal that the Captain's Walk get integrated with resiliency plan and be designed to include messages that raise awareness of past flooding, and of the need to prepare for increased storms and storm surges. (Susan Bryant)
4. Resiliency Meetings: Woods Hole Group presented final report in June. Very interesting findings with recommendations. (George Baumgarten)
5. How can we get “stuff going on” to the Select Board, even if in initial stages? The Town jumps on doing a study but there may have been already something started. Consultants being paid thousands without coordination is wasteful. (Mike Sardina)
6. Use more local knowledge, with research before drafting ideas using design-thinking principles. (Susan Bryant)

Next Meeting Harbor Committee: Second Wednesday of every odd month. September 13, 2023 7pm

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.