



TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT HARBOR & WATERFRONT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ELIHU THOMSON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
22 MONUMENT AVENUE, SWAMPSCOTT, MA 01907

MEMBERS
JACKSON SHULTZ, CHAIR
BOB DOBIAS
ULF WESTHOVEN
STEVE SPERANZA
ALAN VAN ARSDALE
MARK WOLINSKI
EDWARD DOOLEY
SCOTT MCBURNEY
AMY POWELL
WILLIAM WATERS

MEETING MINUTES

Date: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2ND, 2021 **Begins at:** 7:00 PM
Location: VIRTUAL MEETING

Members in Attendance: Jackson Schultz (Chair), Alan Van Arsdale, Ted Dooley, Whisky Wolinski, Steve Speranza, Ulf Westhoven (late)

Other Attendees: Molly O'Connell, Senior Planner; John McAllister (consultant)

The public meeting was video recorded.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

AGENDA

Previous Minutes

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes of November 4th, 2021 – W. Wolinski, seconded by S. Speranza. Unanimously approved.

Update from Pier Consultant

John McAllister provided an update on the ongoing pier project. A site survey has been conducted to establish baseline conditions. Aerial bathymetry is being conducted and the team has started to meet with state regulators to help inform the preliminary design process. Test borings will be conducted on the beach in early January. Mr. McAllister reviewed the project goals with the committee.

Mr. McAllister presented 5 preliminary layouts and noted these are not final and will also be presented at the next larger community meeting in January. Option 0 is the "do nothing" base plan, which is required. Option 1 is potential entry from the side of the Fish House. Option 2 puts the new pier entrance in the middle of the Fish House parking lot. Option 3 puts the new entrance coming off Chaisson Park and is the longest. Option 4 is off the park, but with a more north-south orientation. He noted that north-south can be better for eelgrass, which any option will have to contend with. Option 5 is the same location as the current pier but higher.

The committee discussed pros and cons of each potential option and how they might be received by other stakeholders. Concerns were brought up about ramp access, not enough length to get the pier out into deeper water, making sure the pier is wider than its current status, and providing for larger end docks and possibly slips for boats. There was also discussion about the eelgrass and potential dredging options.

The committee came to consensus on the following:

- 1) a ramp on the east side of the Fish House is not needed – the drive there is narrow, and doesn't serve fishermen or boat users well. The focus should be on a better west side ramp.
- 2) The old pier will need to be demolished, so this will interplay with the discussion about location of the new pier (i.e. if same location, then there will be a time when there will be no pier at all).

3) the new pier should be taller, wider and longer than the existing pier.

In thinking about a new pier location, committee members discussed whether or not moving the pier too far to the west would cause a division of the beach.

Public Comment

Anne Driscoll, resident, noted that beach is for “bathing, fishing, and boating”. She asked for the committee to consider additional boat storage options, especially for kayakers since the current storage areas are completely full with a waiting list. She also wonders whether removing the pier would expose the Fish House to more storm damage.

MOTION to adjourn: S. Speranza; seconded by U. Westhoven. TIME