

Town of Wareham

Marine Resources Commission

Meeting date: April 13, 2016

Attendees: Larry Bearse, Warren Hall Jr., Don Jepson, Jim Smith, Garry Buckminster

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM

The meeting notes for the March meeting were read and approved.

Garry Buckminster provided information regarding his subsequent meeting with Coast Guard and their plans to remove four navigational aids in the harbor area of the Wareham River. Garry indicated the compromise plan he offered had been accepted by the Coast Guard. Hence, the town will assume responsibility for maintaining the navigational aids they are planning to remove. The Coast Guard originally proposed removing 4 navigational aids and they will now remove two.

Garry reported that he had met with the interim town planner and that he had discussion with him the need for funding repair the Onset Pier. The town planner will be investigating what the Town of Plymouth has done regarding funding.

Garry indicated that the money from the Bouchard oil spill has been agreed to, but it will be released in installments as projects progress. Repair of the Onset Boat ramp is partially funded via the Bouchard money.

The MRC members were advised that the letter regarding dredging the Wareham River that was e-mailed to them for review, and approved by them, was sent to the selectmen. The letter was drafted by Larry Bearse and contained the Marine Resources Commission thoughts and advice on dredging of the Wareham River. Attached to the letter was the support package that had been prepared by the towns of Biddeford and Saco Maine for dredging of the Saco River. When asked if the selectmen had sent a letter to the Army Corps of Engineers requesting dredging of the Wareham River, Garry indicated that a letter had not yet been sent and said he had shared with the interim town planner the support package that the towns of Biddeford and Saco submitted. Garry indicated that rather than send a single letter from the selectmen, that it should be accompanied with a full support package sent that was similar to what the towns of Biddeford and Saco submitted. Garry indicated the interim town Planner will be pursuing a similar package via meeting with the marina and businesses to obtain letters of support.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

I attest these are the true MRC minutes of the meeting held April 13, 2016.

Donald H. Jepson, Chairman

Please cc: Board of Selectmen, Harbormaster Office.