

Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board
Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
Meeting trailer, 131 Pleasant St., Nantucket, MA 02554
***HSAB meeting are video-recorded and**
available at Nantucket Government TV on YouTube

Members present: Andy Lowell, Dave Bossi, Dave Fronzuto,
Scott Anderson, Peter Brace

Members Absent: Ginger Andrews, Stephen Payer

Marine Dept:

Natural Resources Dept:

Others: Kona Hosier

CALL TO ORDER

5:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved, 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft minutes of March 7, 2023

Unanimously approved, 5-0.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Open meeting law webinars

Mr. Brace said this webinar is optional but that all HSAB members should view it.

Mr. Payer's resignation

Mr. Lowell informed the board that Mr. Payer intends to resign from the HSAB. Mr. Lowell said he tried unsuccessfully to convince Mr. Payer to remain on the board.

Mr. Brace informed the board that in addition to himself and Mr. Fronzuto having taken out candidacy nomination papers to run for another term on the HSAB, a challenger, Tyler Schulz, had also pulled papers.

Mr. Lowell said Mr. Payer must formally resign from the HSAB before the Select Board can appoint a replacement member.

Mr. Fronzuto said Mr. Schulz could write a letter to the Select Board asking that it appoint him to fill Mr. Payer's seat once Mr. Payer resigns. Mr. Lowell said Mr. Payer must write a formal resignation letter to the Select Board.

Mr. Lowell asked Mr. Brace to email Erika Mooney to get this situation clarified.

MARINE DEPARTMENT REPORT:

General Marine Department report – Sheila Lucey

No report.

The HSAB discussed how to solve the repeated absence of Ms. Lucey. The board expressed its strong desire to have Ms. Lucey attend at least one HSAB meeting a month.

Mr. Fronzuto said he's been contacted by many of constituents on moorings, timesharing of moorings, use of moorings, alternative moorings, dredging and appropriate and inappropriate use of funds.

Mr. Fronzuto also mentioned the Marine Department's new maintenance building out on Bunker Road, which doesn't appear to be in use yet. He added that there's a lot going on in Nantucket Harbor that the HSAB could be helping with if Ms. Lucey could be regularly updating the HSAB.

Mr. Brace floated the idea of mentioning in the HSAB's next quarterly report the absence of the harbormaster at its meetings.

Mr. Lowell said he would be reaching out to Ms. Lucey to try to get her to a future meeting.

The board agreed to send Ms. Lucey a list of questions on topics the HSAB needs information on so she can send it a written report.

Mr. Brace stressed that it would work better for the HSAB if Ms.

Lucey could attend at least one HSAB meeting a month. Mr. Fronzuto reiterated that he's getting a lot of harbor-related questions that he can't answer completely without information from the harbormaster.

NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

General Natural Resources Department report – NRD staff
No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MARINE DEPARTMENT / NATURAL RESOURCES REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

Harbor watershed insert – Update/Discussion

Mr. Bossi updated the board on the status of producing this insert. Mr. Brace confirmed that Town Counsel still has to determine if the HSAB can proceed with this effort.

Mr. Brace suggested that Nantucket Land Council staff attend this workshop to help answer environmental questions. He added that maybe the HSAB could get the word out about the workshop and general HSAB meeting proceedings by sending updates to Nantucket Current.

Mr. Brace said the HSAB should strive to be able to show how individual property owners' land funnels toxic runoff into the harbor and only if possible, show how their lot connect to the harbor. The HSAB agreed the board needs to see a map showing the locations of all 52 outfall pipes discharging into the harbor. Mr. Lowell said it was also vital to inform property owners on the toxicity of the materials they might be using on their property. The rest of the HSAB agreed. Mr. Fronzuto suggested that Natural Resources Department (NRD) managing director Jeff Carlson

could be at the workshop to answer questions about fertilizer use and Nantucket Health Inspector Roberto Santamaria could be there to answer public health-related questions as well. He added that the HSAB should shoot for putting the insert into the July 1 mailing of the Aug. 1 property tax bill.

Mr. Brace said the board needs to firm up the date of the event on a Saturday. The board agreed that a Saturday in August or September for a workshop date.

The HSAB agreed to ask the co-presidents of the Nantucket Civic League to join the HSAB's April 4 meeting to get its input on what date would work best and on how to reach all of their members.

The HSAB also agreed to produce a flyer on the workshop to distribute at the summer state-of-the-harbor forum in July. It also agreed to create a press release to distribute to the island media at the appropriate time and to get help with reaching out from the Nantucket Shellfish Association (NSA).

Vineyard Wind and South Coast Wind – Discussion

Mr. Lowell apprised the HSAB of some articles and research study reports on offshore wind turbine installations. He added that an offshore wind farm of floating wind turbines anchored to the ocean bottom is proposed off of the coast of Maine.

Green crabs – Discussion

Mr. Lowell informed the board that the Toscana Corp. maybe incorporating green crabs into their island-produced compost.

Harbors Action Plan Committee HSAB recommendations – Discussion

Mr. Lowell said the HSAB needed to get going on recommendations for this committee to consider working into the updated plan. Mr. Fronzuto said he would be preparing a paper on the operation and management of the harbor. Mr. Brace said the HSAB could work on its recommendations as this committee continued doing its work. Mr. Fronzuto suggested listing such

HSAB agenda issues as green crabs, marine systems and harbor management under a new heading of Harbors Action Plan Committee on future agendas. Mr. Lowell said it's important to keep certain items on the HSAB agenda because many of the issues the HSAB works on take longer to solve than just one or two meetings. He cited the upcoming sediment transport study and eventual creation of a harbors dredging plan as good examples, stressing the need for dredging around Steamboat Wharf.

Sediment Transport Study and dredge plan – Discussion

No discussion.

Pool water discharge – Discussion

No discussion

HEALTH OF THE HARBORS

No discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Coastal Resilience Advisory Board – Update

Mr. Brace outlined the March 14, 2023 meeting of the Coastal Resilience Advisory Board (CRAC) for the HSAB.

Mr. Brace reported on Nantucket Finance Director Brian Turbitt's presentation to the CRAC on how the Town is working to fund some of the 40 recommendations in the Coastal Resilience Plan (CRP).

Reading from his notes from CRAC's March 14, 2023 meeting, Mr. Brace reported Town CRP project funding is limited to general revenue, permanent proposition 2 ½, debt exclusion, general cash, transfers from unused capital projects that have concluded, free cash, operating budget (raise and appropriate) borrowing, a betterment. He added that Mr. Turbitt said the Town would be hard pressed to fund all of the 40 CRP projects at the same time because of the cost.

Continuing, Mr. Brace said that this year for the 2023 Annual Town Meeting, the Town put forward another \$1 million allocation supported by the Finance Committee and the Capital Programs Committee for the sediment transport study and dredging plan, Millie's Bridge, raising Madaket Road around First and Second bridges, raising the road between both sides of Polpis Road and installing an artificial reef in front of the most vulnerable section of Polpis Road along Sesachacha Pond. He added that the lower cost projects such as these could be dealt with in the near future while – the \$5 million to \$10 million projects will take some creative work and grants to fund.

Mr. Brace reported that Mr. Turbitt said the Town needs to work the CRP projects into its own capital plan so that among other pluses, the projects get more public exposure. He added that the funding needs to be in place to fund a project, that the Town would first borrow for cash flow and then use grants to pay the loan down.

Mr. Brace reported that the CRAC felt betterments are generally not popular with the public.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENT

RECAP and ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

ADJOURN

Unanimously approved, 5-0, at 6:29 p.m.

YOUTUBE MEETING LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EJsmM7nO2Uo&list=PL49sKqpy7VAj6nJnAlrKlxWm6VQTfuXg&index=1>

Future Meetings:

April 4 and April 18

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter B. Brace, Secretary