

Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan Update Committee

Monday, Oct. 2, 2023 at 1 p.m.

Meeting trailer, 131 Pleasant St., Nantucket, MA 02554

***NMHAPUC meetings are video-recorded and available at Nantucket Government TV on YouTube**

Members present: Samantha Denette, Steve Leinbach, Phil Smith (vice chairman), Seth Engelbourg, Jesse Bell, Roberto Santamaria, Emily Molden

Members Absent: Linda Williams, Peter Brace, Dave Fronzuto,

Natural Resources Dept (NRD): Jeff Carlson, Tara Riley

Urban Harbors Institute (UHI): Jack Wiggin, Kim Starbuck, Kristin Uiterwyk, Alan Bartels, Dack Stuart

Others: Bruce Mandel, Madaket Conservation Association, Matt Haffenreffer, Steve McKenna; Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM)

CALL TO ORDER

1:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved, 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Not completed yet.

1. WELCOME

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order and read the script for remotely conducted open meetings.

2. HARBOR PLANNING AREA REVIEW (ALL)

a. DISCUSS MADAKET BOUNDARY

Ms. Starbuck stated that this issue arose at one of the summer public input meetings held at the Madaket Admiralty Club.

When asked by Mr. Leinbach whether changing the study area boundaries for the updating of the harbor plan required the state to re-approve the NMHAPUC's planning process, Mr. McKenna said probably not.

Ms. Starbuck shared the Madaket Harbor study area boundary on her screen for the committee.

Mr. Mandel explained he wanted to include the seven sub-watersheds in Madaket on the eastern portion of this boundary. He added that he wanted to synchronize the harbor plan's boundary with all the other plan boundaries in the area. He added that Long Pond and the Madaket Ditch should be included within this study area. Mr. Mandel said he sent seven exhibits to the NMHAPUC. Mr. Smith said he hadn't seen them. He asked Mr. Mandel to provide the NMHAPUC with a map showing the NMHAPUC's study area overlaid with that Mr. Mandel is proposing for a boundary change for the meeting of Oct. 16, 2023.

Mr. Haffenreffer said agreed with Mr. Mandel's proposal and said he wanted to better understand the decision-making process. Mr. Leinbach asked Mr. McKenna if new area could be added to the study area. Mr. McKenna said it's up to the community to make this decision. Ms. Molden said she appreciated this discussion and that's it worthwhile to consider Mr. Mandel's proposal. She added that she's opposed to taking a bit more time work through this idea, but she wanted to ensure that there is a direct connection between these watershed and Madaket Harbor. Mr. Engelbourg said the NMHAPUC has the ability to include recommendations for outside the study area in the updated plan that address Mr. Mandel's proposal without amending the entire study area. He stated that the NMHAPUC is a harbor plan update committee, not a watershed update committee. Mr. Santamaria agreed with Mr. Engelbourg's comments.

Mr. Carlson said he agreed with Mr. Santamaria and Mr. Engelbourg's comments. He added that expanding the whole watershed would mean expanding out into the whole watershed in Town as well. He said the boundaries of the various plans can coexist and that Mr. Mandel's proposal is a bit out of the scope of the NMHAPUC's study area. Ms. Starbuck asked if there are limits to adding to the study area. Mr. McKenna said no and that if this happens, it wouldn't slow the process down very much.

Mr. Smith said he'd like all of the NMHAPUC to be present to discuss and vote on this proposal at the Oct. 16 meeting.

3. COASTAL RESILIENCY INTEGRATION (STEVE LEINBACH)

Mr. Leinbach asked for an explanation of coastal resilience districts (CRD). Mr. Carlson gave a brief, conceptual explanation of CRDs for Mr. Leinbach.

4. WOODS HOLE GROUP ONLINE MAPPING

Ms. Starbuck explain this tool to the NMHAPUC. Mr. Smith asked how the study area boundary works within this tool. Sharing her screen showing this mapping tool, Ms. Starbuck explained that the tool is a way for members of the public to provide "area-specific comments" to the NMHAPUC and the UHI staff by inputting their comments onto the map. Mr. Stuart said the tool gives members of the public yet another way to provide their input during this process. Ms. Denette observed that this map is a stronger education tool than a feedback tool. The NMHAPUC agreed that although there weren't that many comments on the map didn't mean that the UHI hasn't received loads of public input comments prior to the releasing of the map tool. Mr. Haffenreffer asked what is the most helpful way to comment on the map. Ms. Starbuck and Ms. Uiterwyk explained that this map tool is just a very site-specific way for people to identify issues that are more easily explained by using a map.

a. Distribution

4. ONLINE PUBLIC MEETING (KIM STARBUCK/ALL)

a.OVERVIEW AND FEEDBACK

Ms. Denette noted that a public harbor walkway was mentioned a lot in these comments. Ms. Starbuck said the online survey generated 537 comments. Ms.

Molden said that the Nantucket Land & Water Council has a gift card to offer as an incentive to generate more responses to the survey. Ms. Starbuck said that this would work and that she would select one person at random after the survey closes. Ms. Bell asked what the concept is for the harbor walk and said that this needs to be more clearly defined. The NMHAPUC agreed that the harbor walk is needed and also that it needed more information to form a recommendation for the harbor plan update.

6. NEXT STEPS (ALL)

a. Interviews

Ms. Starbuck said she and her UHI have done around 30 interviews to date and that they had more to do.

b. Next committee meeting

Ms. Starbuck said she and her UHI staff would come back to the NMHAPUC at its next meeting with the main topics that they see should be included in the updated plan.

The NMHAPUC briefly discussed the fate of a ship chandlery existing on Nantucket.

Ms. Denette asked the NMHAPUC and Ms. Starbuck to firm up the meeting dates for the rest of 2023.

ADJURN

Unanimously approved, 7-0, at 2:07 p.m.

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YOUTUBE MEETING LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSCGcixrKf8&list=PL49sKqpy7VAhtfTnajKC38HEDIJx7asi0&index=13>

Future Meetings:

Oct. 16 and Nov. 6

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter B. Brace, Secretary