

**Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan Update
Committee**

Monday, Oct. 16, 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: Linda Williams (chairman), Dave Fronzuto, Steve Leinbach, Phil Smith (vice chairman), Seth Engelbourg, Jesse Bell, Peter Brace

Members Absent: Roberto Santamaria, Emily Molden, Samantha Denette

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

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

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

CALL TO ORDER

1:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Unanimously approved, 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Not completed yet.

1. WELCOME

Ms. Williams called the meeting to order and read the script for remotely conducted open meetings.

2. HARBOR PLANNING AREA REVIEW (ALL)

a. Discuss and vote on Madaket boundary

Ms. Williams stated that the Nantucket and Madaket Harbors Action Plan Update Committee's (NMHAPUC) harbors boundary has already been approved by the state. She added that Mr. Mandel of the Madaket Conservation Association and the Madaket Area Plan group was in attendance and would like to propose altering these boundaries.

Mr. Mandel said the Madaket Harbor boundary should mesh with other boundaries the Town is using for other interests. These include the Madaket Harbor Watershed, the water resource protection areas mapped in 1990 and all seven watersheds in Madaket. Mr. Mandel said these areas feed into the harbor, impacting all its resources mentioned in the current plan.

Mr. Fronzuto clarified that the committee is not amending its study area for Madaket Harbor. He added that Mr. Mandel's amendments to the study area do not match up with the updating of the 2009 harbor plan. Mr. Leinbach said in recommendations within the updated plan, changes can be made without updating the boundaries. Mr. Fronzuto encouraged Mr. Mandel and the other members of the Madaket groups Mr. Mandel represents to attend the NMHAPUC's meetings so he can represent his groups' interests in regards to the updating of the NMHAP. Ms. Williams agreed with the NMHAPUC's comments, adding that expanding the boundary of the Madaket Harbor study area as proposed by Mr. Mandel is not logical. Ms. Starbuck said, speaking for Ms.

Molden, that she agreed with not changing the state-approved study area boundary as long as recommendations for action items outside of this area can still be considered. Mr. Brace said he agreed with his fellow committee members' comments, but added that because the plan would be updated again in 10 years, there could be room for expanding the study area depending on sea level rise and how it expands the harbor inland. Mr. Leinbach agreed and said that the plan could be amended in the future. Mr. McKenna said a proposed amendment could be sent to CZM and considered. Ms. Bell said she agreed with the committee's comments. She then asked how the plan would impact Chapter

91 licenses and future applications. Mr. McKenna said the state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) would have to "cross reference" the harbor plan to when reviewing Chapter 91 licenses.

Mr. Haffenreffer asked if including Long Pond because it's tidal, does this make sense and does not including it in the study area deprioritize it if it's not included? Mr. Carlson said that because Madaket Harbor is connected to Long Pond by the Madaket Ditch, recommendations for this harbor would cover Long Pond concerns. Mr. Carlson recommended keeping the study area boundaries as approved by the state. Ms. Starbuck said that UHI staff received a lot of comments on Long Pond through its survey and at public meetings, so she agreed that this pond should remain on the NMHAPUC's radar but the study areas should not be changed to include it. Mr. Carlson said there are enough water resources protection plans already active on the island to more than cover all the issues outside of the NMHAPUC's study areas. Mr. Engelbourg acknowledged that sea level rise moving through the Madaket Ditch could eventually make it necessary to include Long Pond in the study area for Madaket Harbor. This is because the estuary would expand, salt marshes and other wetlands would gradually move inland, and flooding would increase, but the current update of the NMHAPUC doesn't need to include Long Pond yet. Ms. Uiterwyk showed a graphic depicting how much the water in the area is estimated to rise by 2030 and said the NMHAPUC might consider adding Long Pond to the study area. The NMHAPUC agreed not to include Long Pond in the Madaket Harbor study area.

3. COASTAL RESILIENCY INTEGRATION (STEVE LEINBACH)

Mr. Leinbach asked how, if at all, the proposed coastal resilience districts (CRD) called for by the Select Board and being worked on by the Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee (CRAC) would integrate with the updated harbor plan. Mr. Carlson said the Select

Board and Town Counsel are still working on the CRD model for Nantucket. Mr. Brace confirmed what Mr. Carlson said. Mr. Leinbach asked if the CRDs would be another layer or would they supersede the harbor plan. Mr. Brace said it's likely CRDs would work in concert with the harbor plan.

4. PRELIMINARY SURVEY RESULTS (KIM STARBUCK)

Ms. Starbuck reported that the UHI team received 534 responses to its harbor plan update survey. She then presented and explained the survey results to the committee.

5. NEXT STEPS (ALL)

a. Timeline

Ms. Starbuck said she and the UHI staff are working on revising the timeline and hope to be bringing draft sections of the updated plan, one per meeting, to the NMHAPUC for its review.

b. Interviews

No discussion.

c. Next committee meeting

The NMHAPUC agreed to meet again on Nov. 6, 2023.

ADJOURN

Unanimously approved, 6-0, at 2:04 p.m.

YOUTUBE MEETING LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95XGzIyEqq0&list=PL49sKqpy7VAhtfTnajKC38HEDIJx7asi0&index=14>

Future Meetings:

Nov. 6 and Nov. 20

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter B. Brace, Secretary