

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

Monday, Dec. 9, 2024 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: Phil Smith (vice chair) Peter Brace, Rachael Freeman, Steve Leinbach, Emily Molden,

Members Absent: Linda Williams, Dave Fronzuto

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

Urban Harbors Institute (UHI): Jack Wiggin, Kim Starbuck,
Dack Stuart

Others:

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.

1. WELCOME

(Jeff Carlson/Tara Riley/Linda Williams/Peter Brace)

a. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The NMHAPUC did not approve the agenda.

b. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes weren't ready in time for the meeting.

2. Overview of draft plan

a. How to review and draft comments

Mr. Smith asked if any members of the NMHAPUC needed printed copies of the draft plan. Most were good with the digital version.

Mr. Smith asked how Ms. Starbuck and the UHI staff want the NMHAPUC to comment on the draft plan. He suggested using Track Changes in the document. Ms. Starbuck agreed. Ms. Starbuck said the members of the NMHAPUC should make their changes to the draft plan and that she and her staff would then update the plan accordingly. Ms. Starbuck suggested that the next meeting be on Jan. 6, 2025 to give the NMHAPUC time to read and comment on the plan. Ms. Starbuck updated the NMHAPUC on the current timeline of the plan and suggested that UHI might have a final draft of the updated harbor plan ready to start the public review process of the plan, which includes a 60-day public comment period. Mr. Wiggin clarified that part of the public review period includes having the relevant Town committees, commissions, boards and departments also review the plan. Ms. Starbuck said the latter review should happen before the public review period starts. Ms. Molden agreed with this approach. Ms. Starbuck then said the NMHAPUC should review the draft plan before that happens. Mr. Leinbach suggested having the relevant Town committees, commissions, boards and departments review the document while the NMHAPUC reviews it at the same time. Mr. Smith asked the UHI staff if there any issues that it needed clarification on from the NMHAPUC in the draft plan. Ms. Starbuck replied yes, indicating that there was substantial overlap between Water Quality and Natural Resources, and then Commercial Waterfront and Boating and Navigation. She asked that as the NMHAPUC is going through the plan that it consider combining and condensing these sections.

Mr. Wiggin explained that the UHI's work on the recommendation that the Marine Department be removed from the supervision of the Police Department and become its own autonomous entity within the Town had evolved into allowing Town Administration handling this directly, not relying on a harbor plan

recommendation to make it happen. Mr. Leinbach said removing the language would remove the emphasis off of this important recommendation. He added that Dave Fronzuto should be present for this discussion in the future. Ms. Molden agreed with Mr. Leinbach's comments. The recommendation needs to be memorialized to show that the NMHAPUC agrees with this priority.

On increasing the ferry embarkation fee, Mr. Wiggin asked if the committee supported this along with using some of this money for harbor improvements. Mr. Brace reminded Mr. Wiggin and the NMHAPUC that this recommendation came from Mr. Fronzuto and the Harbor & Shellfish Advisory Board.

Mr. Smith asked for an explanation on why and how nitrogen in the harbors has decreased over the last 10 years. Ms. Riley said this could be tied to when the total maximum daily load (TMDL) number was established for Nantucket Harbor with the completion of the Massachusetts Estuaries Project report on that harbor.

3. Next steps

a. Review draft plan by harbor committee

ADJOURN

Mr. Smith called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brace made a motion to the adjourn the meeting. Mr. Leinbach seconded that motion. The NMHAPUC voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 1:43 p.m.

YOUTUBE MEETING LINK

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ar0jS5ML9ng&list=PL49sKqpy7VAhtfTnajKC38HEDIJx7asi0&index=34>

Future Meetings:

Jan. 6, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter B. Brace, Secretary