

Town of Harpswell
Mitchell Field Committee Meeting
May 16, 2022

Attendees: Spike Haible, Bob Yanders, Mose Price, Philip Conner, Sharon Oehmig, and Katherine Goodrich.

Also present: Mark Eyerman and David Chipman.

Note: This is the rescheduled Mitchell Field Committee meeting of May 2, 2022.

A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM.

Meeting Minutes: The April 4, 2021 minutes were approved as written [6-0-0].

New Business:

- **Chair Update** – Spike asked if anyone had any questions on the following subjects:
 - **Walking/Nature Trail/Educational Path** – Need to lay out the trail. Question about disturbing the Bobolinks. May have to wait. Try to keep the Lupin as we put the trail in.
 - **MF User Survey** – Working on the questions. Refining the wording. July 4th deadline.
 - **Marine Business District** – On hold while we wait to see what RT is doing with the new lease. We should move forward with our proposal.
 - **Comprehensive Waterfront Plan** – We will start after MFMBD has been redrawn.
 - **MF Information and Policy Manual** – Ongoing project.
 - **Community Garden** – Don and Spike met with Susan Stemper, Jane Covey and Gina Perow to review overlapping management responsibilities and planning for the Community Garden. We will mark the existing boundaries then have it formally surveyed for Town records, including marking where well, solar panel and water/electric lines are. The dug well used for emergency water supply and existence of PFAS (2019 study) were also discussed, it being suggested that Town update well test to get updated readings.
- **Planner Update:**
 - **Running Tide Lease** – Still awaiting RT approval of the lease amendment.
 - **Integrated Town Landing** – Working to get Barney allowed to continue working with MDOT on final design and permits.
 - **Port-Potties** – Mark forwarded photos of permanent toilets with holding tank. Negates having to install a water system for actual flush toilets. Question about composting toilets.
- **Parking at Mitchell Field Parking S/C Report:**
 - Looked at potential parking sites. Definitely able to add some more. Need a draft map.
 - Looking at sustainable surfaces rather than paved areas. How much does it cost and design requirements? There is a MeDEP Storm Water Management web site. Other local examples throughout the area.
 - Concerned about how much boat launch traffic we will get. May need a monitor
 - Do we charge boat launch fees. Mere Point is free. Distance to MF may self-select users.
 - Bandstand Cmte is asking for a more defined parking area.
- **Mooring Fees** – Freeport charges increased mooring fees for folks who are at the South Freeport dock because the town has invested funds to develop the access point. MFC and H&W cmtes may want to consider the same to help cover costs for infrastructure.
- **Swimmers' Float** – Will get it broken up and removed then clean up the beach somewhat.
- **Dinghy Storage Rack** – First project for completion in Spring.

- **Develop a cadre of volunteers to help at the Field**– Can we fund dog pot trash removal? Town is working with HHLT to address this issue. There is some monitor money in the MF Operating Budget.
- **Speed Bumps** – Are we considering them? Still an issue.
- **Dog Leash Rules** – People must still have their dogs under control at all times. More signs?
- **Work Plan** – Will send out emails.
- **Goals and Action Items Update** – See changes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Handouts: (All handouts are available electronically)

- MFC Chair memo, *Chairperson Update*, May 2, 2022
- MF Steward memo, *Steward's Update*, April 28, 2022
- Planner memo, *Planner's Update*, April 27, 2022
- *Mitchell Field Goals and Action Items List*, May 1, 2022

Next MF Committee Meeting:

- MFC meeting on Monday, June 6th, 2022 at 5:00 PM
- MFC meeting on Monday, July TBD, 2022 at 5:00 PM (4th is a holiday)
- MFC meeting on Monday, August 1st, 2022 at 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Don Miskill, Secretary