

Town of Harpswell
Mitchell Field Committee Meeting
August 2, 2021

Attendees: Don Miskill, Bob Yanders, Mose Price, Sharon Oehmig, and Philip Conner.

Also present: Mark Eyerman and David Chipman.

A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

Meeting Minutes: The July 12, 2021 minutes were approved as written [5-0-0].

New Business:

• **Running Tide Lease:**

- RT has asked for a couple of small changes to draft lease amendment relating to transferability of the lease and the use of the property to allow them to grow macro algae and seaweed.
- Lease allows for “transfer of the lease.” Town wants to have a say in a transfer.
- Hope to present at 8/5 BoS meeting.

• **New Running Tide Building:**

- Working on the new building design. They are doing some kelp growing research
- Preliminary meeting with town staff for code compliance review
- Building will replace rubber building. When removed, the concrete pad becomes a storage area.
- Plans may involve moving the gravel service road to the edge of their area.
- Building plans will require Planning Board approval.

• **Blue Sky Tower:**

- The Selectmen approved the lease for CMP to bring underground power (as well as for other tele-com services) to the tower across Pammy’s Ice Cream lot.
- Planning board approved a revision to BST’s development plan showing the change in the location of the utility easement, and approved companion amendment to MF subdivision plan.
- They have to remove the old sediment building foundation and floor in order to install tower anchor foundation points. Design shows huge concrete pad for the tower anchor points. Proterra rep coming this week to oversee compaction testing.
- New electric service pole is installed at road edge.
- Work going on relating to installing the Town’s emergency communications equipment on the tower when it is being erected.

• **Integrated Town Landing:**

- Town meeting approved both articles for the last \$50,000 requested, and to deposit the \$35,000 sign-up fee each carrier pays to get on the tower in the MF capital reserve account. We now have the \$340,000 in matching funds for up to \$680,000 to cover the integrated project. Barney’s estimated cost is ~\$625,000 plus a needed contingency.
- MaineDOT has shifted gears. They no longer want to cancel the two currently approved applications and submit a new single application. In order to avoid admin burden since we have already spent some money on the town dock project, we will submit a supplemental application which will allow us to move funds between the two projects based on the bids we received and how we plan to execute the build.
- Hope to solicit bids in 2022 if state approves the supplemental application in a timely fashion.
- We also need to rebid the engineering contract and get the permit changes approved.
- BoS will be asked to approve the supplemental application at their 8/5 meeting.

• **Walking Path:** Chair will be calling for a meeting with sub-committee.

- **User Survey Sub-Committee:** Chair will be calling for a meeting with sub-committee.
- **Solar Array Memo** – Spike and Don received feedback that the memo didn't go to the committee before going to the BoS. We were on a short timeline so they reviewed the previous MFC meetings' discussions on this subject to complete the memo and get it to the Town Administrator. We will endeavor in the future to make sure the memos get to the committee for a review and approval
- **Picnic Tables** – Start this week.
- **Shark Warning Flag** – Will coordinate a date this week to install the pole and sign.
- **Dinghy Rack** – Harbormaster was on vacation so we were delayed a week ordering the wood. It will be delivered to the Admin Building Garage. We have all the hardware.
- **Hybrid Public Meetings** – Don forwarded a new state law on hybrid public meetings. The bill addresses hybrid meetings where some committee members are participating remotely. When these meetings occur, the law says the public must be able to participate remotely too. And, any documents distributed to the committee members must be available to the public for the meeting. The BoS will be holding a public forum to discuss the matter prior to enacting a town policy. There is a sample policy as part of the handouts.
- **September Meeting** – First Monday is Labor Day. Recommend moving our meeting to Sep 13. Don will email absent members for a consensus approval.
- **Work Plan** – Nothing for now.
- **Goals and Action Items Update** – See changes.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Handouts: (All handouts are available electronically)

- MFC Chair, *Chairperson Update*, July 29, 2021
- M. Eyerman memo, *Planner's Update*, July 29, 2021
- MF Steward memo, *Steward's Update*, July 29, 2021
- *Mitchell Field Goals and Action Items List*, July 10, 2021
- Kristi Eiane email July 30, 2021 at 1:21 PM, *Remote Participation in Public Proceedings*
- Attachment: S.P. 40 – L.D. 32, *An Act Regarding Remote Participation in Public Proceedings*
- Summary of the Remote Participation legislation (one page)
- Sample *Remote Participation Policy* dated Rev. 6/28/2021

Next MF Committee Meeting:

- MFC meeting on Monday, September 6th, 2021 at 5:00 PM (May change due to Labor Day)
- MFC meeting on Monday, October 4th, 2021 at 5:00 PM
- MFC meeting on Monday, November 1st, 2021 at 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Don Miskill, Secretary