

**Town of Harpswell
Town Lands Committee
Minutes of Meeting
January 13, 2020**

January **FINAL**

Present: Ken Oehmig and Hope Hilton, co-Chairs, Frank Holgate, David Morton, Ned Perry, Priscilla Seimer

Absent: Jane Smith, David Hackett

Guest: Harbormaster Paul Plummer

December minutes accepted with changes.

Updates:

1. Tide Mill:

- ✦ Specific warrant at Town Meeting regarding upgrades.

2. Climate Resiliency Task Force :

- ✦ Task force has had 3rd meeting. Next step is to formulate a tangible action plan. The next meeting is scheduled for the end of this month (January).
- ✦ Action plan will consider what Harpswell needs to do to mitigate effects of climate change as possible. The plan is to develop a strategy for next steps. Planning will be open to the public.

Old Business:

1. Lookout Point erosion:

- ✦ The issue is the erosion underneath the headlands, which will cause long-term loss of land. Harbormaster noted the Town is aware of this on the N side and may have plans to assess the erosion.
- ✦ Lookout Point discussion led into discussion of other potential town landing areas which might be experiencing the same erosion problem.

2. Portable toilets on Town lands :

- ✦ After discussion, the Committee voted to request the Select Board undertake a review of Town owned lands that are open to public recreation for the purposes of installing portable toilets at sites that are experiencing pollution and/or other public health concerns arising out of the lack of toilet facilities. The Committee more specifically voted that a portable toilet be installed at Mackerel Cove, a site that has experienced water pollution problems.

3. Alcohol on Town properties:

- ✦ Reviewed and discussed examples of other town and public area regulations regarding the use of alcohol on public lands the Committee will draft examples for use by Selectmen, who are the appropriate ones to decide on and develop a policy.

4. Rockweed harvesting:

- ✦ The Town Lands Committee recommends that the Select Board hold a public workshop to discuss rockweed harvesting within the intertidal zone of Town owned lands located adjacent to the ocean. The Committee suggests other Town committees be invited to attend, as well as the public.

5. Signage at Giant's Stairs: Continued discussion about whether and/or how to update signage at Giant's Stairs in order to make public and private boundaries clearer.

New Business:

The Committee discussed items to be included in the Town Lands Committee Report for the Annual Town Report including:

- ✦ Committee's site visits which included Tide Mill, Graveyard Point, and Lookout Pt.
- ✦ Workday to improve the Graveyard Point parking lot.
- ✦ Continuing focus on improving the Tide Mill Landing.
- ✦ Town Land Stewards including a request for more volunteers to serve as Stewards.

Next Meeting Monday, February 10, 6pm at Town Offices.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Minutes submitted by Priscilla Seimer