

# Town of Barnstable

## Waterways Committee

1189 Phinney's Lane, Centerville MA 02632

[www.townofbarnstable.us](http://www.townofbarnstable.us)

### Waterways Committee Meeting Minutes December 17, 2024

A meeting of the Town of Barnstable Waterways Committee was held via Zoom as approved by the Town Manager with the Committee's approval.

#### **I. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman Paul Everson. The quorum was confirmed and Paul Everson read the following notice at the beginning of the meeting. NOTICE OF RECORDING "Please note that tonight's meeting is recorded and broadcast on Town of Barnstable's Government Access Channel and Website, and in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, s. 20, I must inquire whether anyone is taping this meeting and to please make their presence known.

Assistant Harbormaster Tyler McKay initiated the recording.

#### **Roll Call:**

Board Members present:

Paul Everson, Chairman  
Gary Shramek  
Todd Walantis  
Jacob Angelo

Board Members absent: Greg Egan

Town Staff Present:

Derek Lawson, Director  
Brian Taylor, Harbormaster (HM)  
Jay Horn, Deputy Harbormaster (DHM)  
Tyler McKay, Assistant Harbormaster (AHM)

Town Council Liaison:

Public: Paul Revere and Chip Niehoff (together), Molly Drake, Nathaniel "Than" Drake, Paul Phalan, Jacob Smith, Betty Ludke, Molly Weston, Rogan (no last name recorded), Tom (no last name recorded), Jack (no last name recorded).

## **II. Meeting Minutes:**

1. December 17, 2024, Waterways Committee Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Todd Walantis and seconded by Gary Shramek to approve November 19, 2024, meeting minutes as written: all in favor of accepting minutes as written.

**III. Notices of Intent (NOI):** None.

**IV. MOORING APPEALS:** None.

## **V. OLD BUSINESS:**

### **1. Mooring regulations.**

The Deputy Harbormaster, Jay Horn explained to the Committee that the changes which were made to the Mooring Regulations will be held at a Town Manager hearing. The Waterways Committee approved of these changes in the past. The division will be moving forward in the process right now. There will be a Public Hearing on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in the Selectmen's Room of Town Hall and will be opened to the public for comment, listen to any concerns that people might have about the changes. Then they will officially go to the Town Manager where he can sign off on them. There is a waiting period of 30 days once he signs these and puts them into effect. They go to the Town Council. It's a formality but 30 days after signature, they will go to effect. They are estimated to be in effect around January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **2. Marina Fees.**

The Harbormaster, Brian Taylor explained to the Committee that the marina fees were just approved within the past week and will go into effect Calendar Year starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

### **3. Termination of AGL's Servicer's License Appeal, "Continued"**

Paul Revere and Chip Niehoff (together). Paul Revere states he would like to make a few statements on behalf of Chip. Paul states that Chip has some concerns about the procedure. He mentions they believe that it should be held in person because it can be difficult to do over zoom. Paul Revere and Chip Niehoff address some of the previous violation accusations mentioned in passed meetings. Explains that Lake Wequaquet has approximately 30 people who service their own gear. Chip Niehoff explains that he had nothing to do with the Evans Arnold mooring and what had happened to it recently. Chip Niehoff explains his dedication to the job and the water, and how he is "blindsided" by the situation. Paul Revere's closing statement suggests to the committee that they consider not withholding a 2025 mooring servicer license for AGL and that he instead is regulated and managed more properly.

Public Comments: NONE

Closed by Paul Everson, Chairman at 7:21 p.m.

Committee member input:

Jake Angelo states that he believes the reports from the Harbormaster's Office. However, we are talking about someone's livelihood and that he is curious if there is a possible third option or compromise to pay special attention to AGL's work.

Town Staff Input:

Jay Horn states that he has given AGL every opportunity to work with him. Examples of such include multiple emails, phone calls, and voicemails, all of which were not addressed by AGL. Jay Horn explains the major public safety issues from failed tackle. Jay Horn also explains that this termination has been done in accordance with the Town's regulations.

Committee member input:

Todd Walantis and Gary Shramek both agree with Jay Horn

Paul Everson entertains a Motion to Terminate AGL Servicer's License at 7:32 p.m.

Todd Walantis motion, Gary Shramek seconded, Jake Angelo also a yes, and Chairman Everson also a yes.

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. 2025 Waterways Committee Meeting Dates TBA  
Next Meeting: January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

## **VII. CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **1. Paul Phalan email regarding mooring usage.**

Paul Phalan would like the Barnstable Harbormaster to consider how they can eliminate unused moorings in the town. Paul Phalan explains how many moorings in all mooring fields go unused so far into the season. Closing Statement at 7:42 p.m.

### **2. Nathaniel "Than" Drake, Pirate Adventures**

1. Than Drake expresses concern of the "Survivability of the Slip", Than Drake explains how Pirate Adventures has been around a long time and would like to see the business continue with his children along with the slip by asking for any accommodations.

2. Than Drake also explains how "Sea Gypsy" (Pirate Adventures Vessel) is too close to the "Angler" during the season and how it is a safety concern for the passengers on board while docking. Than Drake mentions how he talked to Brian and Derek in May/June and how they have tried the newly recommended techniques. Molly Drake expresses concern on who the "Sea Gypsy" will be next to for summer of 2025.

Committee member input:

Jake Angelo agrees with Than Drake and would like to entertain future discussion of the rules and how "small businesses can be protected". Todd Walantis agrees with Jake Angelo to continue a working waterfront. Final Statements End at 7:59 p.m.

### **VIII. HARBORMASTER REPORT**

Deputy Harbormaster, Jay Horn discussed that the Harbormasters office is busy. Jay Horn explains the Harbormaster Staff have recently finished hauling all the Town's Aids to Navigation, and that the staff has been busy with the winterization and maintenance of all department vessels. Mooring renewals went out today (12/17/2024), permitting will not start until January1, 2025.

**IX. MATTERS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR:** None

**X. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Todd Walantis and seconded by Gary Shramek, the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyler McKay, Assistant Harbormaster  
Town of Barnstable