

Friends of Barnstable Harbor
Minutes of Annual Meeting
December 9, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 by President Avery Revere. In attendance were Secretary Peter Eleftherakis, a number of other board members and a total of 16 members.

A total of 17 Proxy ballots were received and the vote was unanimous to elect the slate of Directors as presented.

The minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting were distributed by Secretary Eleftherakis and were accepted by unanimous vote.

The Treasurers Report was read by Secretary Eleftherakis and was accepted by unanimous vote.

Committee Reports were presented as follows:

Kate Plettner – re Bornstein Dredging Project

Dredging has begun and appears to be progressing without any types of barriers (such as hay bales or booms) in place. There is visual evidence of erosion and silting in a number of areas surrounding the dredge site. Town Councilor John Flores reported that a number of commercial shellfishermen have mentioned to him that sand is also building up on the launch ramp. Kate contacted the head of the Conservation Commission and is waiting for a reply. It appears that the Conservation Commission is not convinced that the conditions seen are being caused by the current dredging. Kate is continuing in her attempts to locate the most current Order of Conditions that would govern the work in progress. President Revere indicated that she will look into the matter on behalf of FOBH in January, 2017.

John Flores, Town Councilor – re Harbor Channel Dredge Project

John reported that the dredge project, which had originally gone to the RFP stage last summer/fall, was delayed when three Barnstable residents filed suit, forcing the Army Corps of Engineers to delay their approval. At this point, it appears that the project will be able to move forward in Fall 2017. Former Town Councilor Ann Canedy requested that President Revere send a letter to Town Manager Mark Ells and DPW Administrator Dan Santos inquiring regarding the status of the project and whether a contingency plan is in place in the event that the sedimentation worsens and becomes an impediment to boat traffic.

President Revere read a note that was received from the estate of Carl Wirtenan indicating that donations in the amount of \$1,715 were received in his memory following his death.

President Revere then reported on her activities since the last meeting:

Water Resources Advisory Committee

President Revere has been attending the monthly Town of Barnstable Water Resources Advisory Committee meetings. Her attendance has provided her with extensive information on wastewater management solutions. It has also put her in direct contact with information regarding the ongoing Mass. Estuaries Project study on Barnstable Harbor Water Quality, the completion of which is promised for this spring.

President Revere expressed her wish to see the establishment of a Cape Cod Water Resources Center and her long-term interest in seeing a redesign of the County Parking Complex to reduce the impact of runoff into Barnstable Harbor.

Youth Education Project

Now that a new Superintendent of Schools has been appointed, President Revere will be contacting her to solicit her support for the Youth Education Project which is envisioned to give 4th graders an opportunity to participate in ecological tours of Barnstable Harbor. Councilor Flores indicated that he has spoken with Superintendent Mayo-Brown regarding the program and that she is in favor of it.

Promotional Items

President Revere announced that existing inventories of a number of promotional items have been depleted and that for the near term FOBH stickers will be the sole promotional item to be distributed.

Cape Coastal Conference

President Revere attended the Fourth conference held recently in Hyannis and viewed a session on Sediment Management which included a report on conditions around Sandy Neck and Little Neck. She invited one of the speakers to do a presentation in the village in the coming year and will have more to report on it at a future meeting.

Monthly Meetings

President Revere distributed a proposed schedule for FOBH meetings in 2017. The intent is to provide a forum for keeping members and the public more aware of FOBH projects and activities. The first meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 14, 2017.

FOBH Website

President Revere indicated that the website needs updating and that she is willing to perform updates as needed but will require payment for her services. After discussion among the attendees, it was determined that the matter should be brought to the board for approval. President Revere will prepare an outline of the work needed and an estimate of the time and cost to be involved.

Harbor Cleanup

A question was asked regarding plans for future harbor cleanups. It was noted that there are currently none planned and that spring is usually the best time to hold them. This will be discussed at a future monthly meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27.