

Friends of Barnstable Harbor Meeting Minutes
Annual Meeting
December 5, 2014
92 Freezer Road, Barnstable, MA

The meeting was called to order by President Avery Revere at 4:35 PM. There were 23 members present.

The Secretary's report was read by Ted Theodores and was accepted by unanimous vote. A quorum of over 25 members was certified. The vote for the 2015 Officers and Board of Directors was certified and all nominees were confirmed for election. In addition two amendments to the By-Laws were approved as follows:

A quorum shall now consist of 10 members present

Article IV, Section 2 was amended to read as follows:

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall meet as soon as practical after the Annual Meeting for organizational purposes and thereafter at least every two months throughout the year. The Board shall meet on call from the President or from three Directors. Unless a greater proportion is required by law, a quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of a majority of incumbent Directors.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Acting Treasurer Kate Plettner and was accepted.

President Revere provided a review of the major accomplishments of the prior year:

New board members were introduced

Three Harbor Issues were dealt with:

Marina "Zone of Reconfiguration"

Freezer Point Bulkhead

Bulkhead Failure

The website has been updated and now includes PayPal and Facebook links

Mail Chimp is being used for distributing information to members

New Promotional Materials were produced (Mugs, Cards and Stickers)

A meeting was held with the Town Manager re new initiatives

FOBH sponsored two events held at Sturgis Library

Ian Ives presented a talk on Horseshoe Crabs on May 6th

Mark Nelson presented a talk on Barnstable Harbor Water Quality on November 4th

FOBH participated with a booth at the Barnstable Village Stroll

President Revere presented her vision for the future of FOBH and outlined the areas she will be focusing on in the coming year:

Harbor Management Plan

A good deal of work has been done but much more remains to complete a plan. A committee needs to be created to continue the work started. May provide an opportunity to apply for EPA funding for marsh replenishment. Could serve as a model for other harbors in town.

Mill Way Bridge Condition

Peter Eleftherakis provided an update. The state did an inspection on 9/4/2014 and noted a number of minor issues to be addressed. FOBH will be meeting with DPW Head in January to discuss state report and plans for future monitoring.

Environmental Project

Fred Schilpp will be chairing a committee and will be developing an agenda.

Education Project

Committee chair to be named.

John Brink will be giving a presentation on Sand Lances at Sturgis Library. Suggestions for other speakers & topics are welcomed.

Suggestion was made for creating a Harbor Tour Program for school children, possibly in conjunction with Barnstable Harbor Ecotours. Any program of this sort should be designed to conform to state education and safety requirements.

Discussion followed and a number of other suggestions were presented for consideration including:

Coordination with Cape Cod Community College STEM program.

Reviving of the Marsh Cleanup Project.

Soliciting grant funding from the Cobb Trust.

Utilization of Sheriff's inmate work program and AmeriCorps staffing.

In addition, Ann Canedy suggested that we should contact Senator Dan Wolfe's office regarding state funding that may be available through the Environmental Bond Bill and/or Coastal Zone Management grants. Ann also mentioned that she has included money in the town FY 2015 budget for dredging of the outer harbor and for the Blish Point Reclamation project.

President Revere noted that Southeastern Massachusetts Coastal Outreach (SEMCO) is a list service that operates as a clearing house for coastal outreach programs and is something we should participate in.

Captain Chris Beal of the Barnstable Fire Department updated the group on recent activities of interest that impact the harbor:

An Oil Spill Recovery Drill was recently completed in the harbor.

The State Fire Academy held a Swift Water Rescue Class in the harbor this fall.

The Fire Department has been awarded a 27' surplus Coast Guard boat and is in the process of acquiring grant and budget funding to outfit and prepare the boat for use.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36.

Submitted by Peter Eleftherakis, Secretary
December 7, 2014