

Friends of Barnstable Harbor  
Minutes of Annual Meeting  
December 13, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 4:33 PM by President Avery Revere. In attendance were Secretary Peter Eleftherakis and 23 additional members.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed slate of officers as outlined in the Proxy Statement. The vote was unanimous (including voice vote and proxy ballots submitted) to accept the slate as proposed.

The minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting were distributed by Secretary Eleftherakis and were accepted by unanimous vote.

An abbreviated summary of the Treasurers Report was read by Secretary Eleftherakis and was accepted by unanimous vote.

The President then provided a status update on the following items from 2019:

The year was a very positive one for fundraising. A total of \$91,018 was raised, with most of it going to fund the Benthic Mapping Study. A total of \$12,121 remains in the checking account.

The Sunset Cruise in June was successful in both raising money and in making new friends. Over 100 new names were added to the mailing list. President Revere expressed her thanks to Hyannis Whale Watcher Cruises for their support and to all the volunteers who helped out.

President Revere pointed out that it is time to update the website again and that she would be willing to undertake that job again this year as she did two years ago. Secretary Eleftherakis made a motion that the board approve \$1,000 to be paid to President Revere for this purpose. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

YEP continued to expand its offerings in 2019. A total of seven trips were held including four with the Lighthouse School ESL program and two with the Barnstable Yacht Club Sailing Program. Plans for 2020 include increasing the number of trips, extending the season and making the program more hands-on. In the coming year, we will need to address the problem of cell phone distraction that seems universal. Several suggestions were offered including taking phones from students at the start of the trip, having them switch to airplane mode or assigning students tasks that would require their cell phone to complete. As the program continues to grow, we will be reviewing our liability insurance to ensure our coverage is sufficient.

New Business:

President Revere will lead the board in a series of meetings over the next year to review our mission statement, our by-laws and our insurance coverage. A \$5,000 donation has been received to support this review and pay for any legal assistance required.

The MA Shellfish Initiative is developing a strategic plan with a goal of optimizing the many benefits of the state's shellfish resources. President Revere feels their mission is right in line with that of FOBH and she will be monitoring their progress. Additional information can be found at <http://www.massshellfishinitiative.org/>.

President Revere announced that there are two open positions on the Town's Shellfish Advisory Committee, and she indicated that it would be good to have a member of FOBH on that committee.

A discussion was held regarding a number of issues surrounding the harbor including:

Support for the commercial aquaculture industry

Support for the harbor Charter Fishing fleet – The fleet represents an important, but shrinking, asset to the harbor.

Events scheduled for 2020:

New Year's Day Swim – FOBH will be the beneficiary of this year's proceeds.

President Revere will be inviting Owen Nichols, Director of Marine Fisheries Research at the Center for Coastal Studies (<https://coastalstudies.org/>) to talk about the Fin Fish/Shellfish study being conducted.

President Revere will be reaching out to Gabrielle Sakolsky from the Cape Cod Mosquito Control Project (<https://www.ccmcp.net/about-us>) to have her speak at an upcoming meeting.

A number of local issues regarding Coastal Resiliency were discussed and it was suggested that this could be a good topic to be included in the YEP program.

Town Councilor Gordon Starr reported that the town has applied for a grant to regrade Commerce Road at the low spot on the eastern section. The project is planned to take place next spring, after the completion of the Main Street project, either with or without the receipt of outside grant funding.

Discussion was held regarding concerns over drainage around some town projects including the sewerage of Cape Cod Community College, the drainage system at the intersection of Route 6A and Route 130, the culvert beside St. Mary's Church and the storm drains and drainage beds behind the Tuscan Grill restaurant.

President Revere pointed out that there are FOBH vests available for sale and that dues can be submitted at any time.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.

Respectfully Submitted December 20, 2019

Peter Eleftherakis  
Secretary