

Narragansett Harbor Management Commission -- 2022-Apr-05

Convene / Roll Call

- **Call To Order @ 19:00h** by Chairman Bryan Couture, Site: Narragansett Town Hall Board Room
- **Roll Call**, Members: Bryan Couture, Ray Morocco, John Thompson, John Hughes, Don Vivenzio, Rick Black, Jeff Berry;
Staff: Jill Sabo; Harbormaster Kevin Connors

Consent Agenda

- **Item 1C, Approval of Minutes from 2022-Mar-01:** Minutes distributed before meeting. J. Hughes moves, R Morocco seconds approval as received. Approved 5-0
- **Item 2C, Harbormaster's Report:** Report distributed before meeting. Discussion ensued on:
 - Developments on annual mooring registration
 - Fishing vessel ran aground in upper pond near site of non-present Buoy #32 (some buoys taken out for winter per latest Coast Guard policy)
 - Motion by R. Black, seconded by R. Morocco to accept report as received. Approved 5-0.

Regular Agenda

- **Old Business Item 3R: Pt Judith Pond Closures/Water Quality update:**
Discussion proceeded as to facilitating pollution remediation for areas in Bluff Hill Cove (near Frank Neck/Rye Pt) and Champlin Cove (near Briggs Farm neighborhood landing).
 - Narragansett Public Works Dept. (NPW) and RI Dept of Environmental Management (RIDEM) have been engaged in discussions as to required remediation before RIDEM will consider retesting pollution levels in the affected areas. NPW is engaging in camera probe surveys of storm drains and has identified undocumented tie-ins.
 - In information packet brought by Jill Sabo; Fuss & O'Neill letter to Joseph Haberek, Supervising Engineer, Ofc of Water Resources, RIDEM of 2019-Aug-27) indicated high Fecal Coliform level (330 cfu/100 mL) sampled in the Robertson Rd / East Pond Rd outfall into Iron Mine Cove. Citing Table 1 of letter. Uncertain if this is human or animal origin. Fuss & O'Neill had used Theilsch Engineering / ESS Laboratory / BAL Laboratory, Cranston RI and discussion proceeded of their ability to test additional samples that might be collected.
 - Briggs Farm development and adjacent town-owned Sunset Farm have been a subject of informal walking surveys by HMC to trace runoff paths.
 - A database of house-lot wastewater handling (town sewer / approved septic system / cesspool) provisions exists and can serve as a reference.
 - Immediate action items expected to be undertaken by NPW for review in next month's HMC meetings: expecting information on Drainage maps, Stenciling, Tree boxes.
 - Sense of HMC is that this problem demands long-term attention from all parties to yield improvement.
- **New Business:**
HMC proposed activities budget of \$2800 is up for Town Council discussion at the Wednesday (Apr-06) meeting. Proposed uses for this comprise:
 - Water quality testing at newly selected sample point(s) recommended to Salt Pond Coalition (SPC). As of last month, we had identified a desired test point in the affected area of Bluff Hill Cove.
 - Additional lab test services
 - Mailings to households promoting best water quality practice

Chair Bryan Couture will attend Town Council meeting to explain goal: To identify source of the pollution, determine how bad, and how it can be fixed.

- **Reports from Commission/Staff:**

Chair Bryan Couture will attend South Kingstown Waterfront Advisory Committee (Thursday, Apr-07 at Neighborhood Guild) to continue a liason for items of shared concern:

- Advocating for continued buoy provisions in Pt Judith Pond in view of Coast Guard plans
- Saugatucket River water quality

- **Open Forum:** none

- **Correspondence:** none

- **Items for next agenda:**

- Continuation for Pt Judith Pond Closures/Water Quality update

- **Adjournment:** 20:40h, moved D. Black, seconded J. Hughes, approved 7-0. Next meeting 2022-May-03, 19:00h, Narragansett Town Hall, Board Room

Respectfully submitted, *Jeff Berry*, NHMC Secretary