

LAGOON POND DRAWBRIDGE COMMITTEE
c/o Martha's Vineyard Commission

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Minutes of the Meeting held on May 2, 2007, 2007, 9:00 A.M.
At the Offices of the Martha's Vineyard Commission

Members Present: Melinda Loberg (Chairman), Mark London, Steve Berlucchi, Dave Grunden and Tristan Israel

Observers: Bob Ford, Dan Greenbaum, Jo-Ann Taylor and Jim Miller

1. Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of the meeting of April 11 were approved.

2. Project Schedule – Permanent

- Jo-Ann reported from recent phone calls with Steve McLaughlin, MassHighway, and Frank Vitale, Parsons, that they would like to come to talk about the long-term schedule. Several potential dates were identified by committee members (subsequently set for May 17th at 10:30). The Committee expressed interest in opening more substantive discussion, other than the schedule, and would like to know if Parsons plans to do the boat inventory that was previously discussed (It was subsequently confirmed that Parsons will do the inventory.)
- Melinda, Tristan, Mark and Jo-Ann reported from a discussion with Mark Forrest, Aide to Representative Delahunt, that the Congressman continues to fight for funding, which is tenuous. He suggested that the USCG sunset clause in the permit for the temporary bridge could be helpful in ensuring that the permanent bridge project is not forgotten.
 - Tristan suggested asking the USCG to write to Congress in support of the funding. Jo-Ann will consult with Mark Forrest on the advisability of this approach.

3. Project Schedule –Temporary

- Jo-Ann reported from a recent phone call with Steve McLaughlin, MassHighway, that the award for the project for the temporary bridge had not been made, due to a technicality at the federal highway level, and that he expected it to be done soon.
- The Committee reviewed a response from Acting Chief Engineer David Anderson to its query for information on the Commonwealth's arrangements with the owner of the house adjacent to the project, including a copy of the document of taking a temporary easement by eminent domain.

4. Existing Bridge - Contingency

- Melinda, Tristan, Mark and Jo-Ann reported from the conversation with Mark Forrest that the Congressman is aware of the need for the bridge to be kept open

to vehicular traffic, and is prepared to assist with securing that in the event that the bridge fails in a manner that would allow vehicular traffic with the draw closed. He also reiterated, as the Committee was aware, that it is important to have safe alternatives ready for the boaters.

- The Committee discussed reconvening the Boating Subcommittee to work on refining the idea of potential for a crane to open the draw for boaters in a storm emergency, if it were otherwise closed. Steve agreed to call MassHighway first to discuss the option, which would be their responsibility.

5. Upcoming meeting

- The next meeting of the Drawbridge Committee was subsequently set for Thursday, May 17, at 10:30 A.M.

Minutes prepared by Jo-Ann Taylor