

Lagoon Pond Drawbridge Committee
Minutes of the Meeting held on January 4, 2006
At the Offices of the Martha's Vineyard Commission

Present: Melinda Loberg (Chair), Fred LaPiana, Tristan Israel, Steve Berlucchi, Mark London, Derek Cimeno, Dave Grunden

Observers: Jo-Ann Taylor, Harriet Barrow, and Chris Fried

1. Minutes

- The minutes of the December 7 regular meeting were approved as presented.
- In the interest of accuracy, draft minutes of the December 7 public session, prepared from notes only, were deferred pending broadcast.

2. Preparation for visit by MassHighway Commissioner Luisa Paiewonsky on January 20

- The Committee began to draft correspondence to the Commissioner, to be finalized at the next meeting and sent as an e-mail prior to her visit. The correspondence will be brief and will ask her, as a new Commissioner, to take a fresh look at the situation, particularly in light of several circumstances which have changed:
 - Cost estimates have escalated.
 - The Lichtenstein report has presented a new assessment of physical conditions, particularly outlining a number of potential preventive measures that could extend the life of the existing bridge.
 - There is increasing community concern regarding safety issues for pedestrians, bicycles and mopeds on the proposed temporary bridge. The proximity of the existing house is intricately linked with these safety issues.
- The Committee will meet with her at 10:30 on the morning of her visit, to discuss drawbridge issues.
- The Committee will ask her for a snow date.

3. Speed and weight restrictions

- The Committee will invite local truckers and police to the regular meeting in February, to discuss the need for enforcement of existing restrictions, and to discuss the possibility of enhanced restrictions, possibly including designation of a truck route.

4. Other

- The Committee will write a letter of thanks to Steamship Authority General Manager Wayne Lamson for participating in the December 7 public session, and for distribution of the Committee's letter to truckers.
- The Committee will write a letter of thanks to Dick Sherman for sharing his proposal for a pontoon bridge, and will inform him that the Committee will not be pursuing the issue at this time.

5. Next meetings

- Monday, January 9, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.
- Friday, January 20, 2006 at 10:30 A.M. with Commissioner Paiewonsky
- Wednesday, February 1, 2006 at 9:00 A.M. regular meeting, with first hour devoted to discussion with local truckers (meeting date later changed to Wednesday, February 8, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.)

Minutes prepared by Jo-Ann Taylor