



The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409

302-539-3011 ~ 302-539-1305 fax

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

DREDGING COMMITTEE
JUNE 28, 2022 9:00AM
MEETING MINUTES
MEETING HELD VIA HYBRID METHOD

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

J. Pyne and W. Rymer at Town Hall

S. Magdebarger, G. Murphy – via zoom

OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS:

S. Bagnull – Anchor QEA Engineering (via zoom)

T. Pratt – in attendance

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE (in person or via zoom):

Several residents and members of town council in-person and via zoom

Rymer called the meeting to order at 9:04 am

After the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the committee discussed and approved the draft minutes from the May 20, 2022 meeting that were previously provided to the committee.

Rymer provided the following updates:

- Town was selected to Round 2 for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant application process. Town is requesting \$100,000 to support the engineering and permitting costs related to the Restoration of Seal Island. Very competitive process. Town applied for a similar NFWF grant three years ago and did not make it to Round 2. Still a long-shot but final application will be completed and filed on June 30.

S Bagnull then walked the committee through the cost estimates and conceptual designs related to the three proposed dredge material disposal sites:

- Seal Island Restoration – estimated costs of \$1.75 million which includes \$150,000 of placement fee (“tipping fee”) to be paid to DE State Parks. Design includes a living shoreline sill stone perimeter on the northern tip, entire western side and portion of southern edge to provide sufficient protection against wave action to limit erosion. Island to include high marsh area up to 2 feet above MHW just behind the sill-stone perimeter which then slopes towards the southeast corner. Middle will have a lower marsh area and then a beach-head/soft shoreline.
- “Kayak launch” area just north of Fenwick and west of state park – estimated cost of \$1.85 million is very high based on the need to perform mechanical de-watering of dredge materials before placing a portion of the materials along the western beach head with the rest being



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transported and placed along the dunes in the state park area or possibly another DelDOT staging area. This project is not feasible in its current design and we need to discuss in greater detail with DE State Parks the need to have an area large enough for natural de-watering and then spread all material along the western side of Rte 1. Project would become more efficient/cost-effective with these changes but that will be based on DE State Parks response.

- Seatowne – original cost estimate of \$1.4 million has been increased to \$1.5 million to account for the current fuel costs and recent inflation on other materials.

It was agreed that T Pratt, S Bagnall and one or two representatives from the committee will engage with DE State Parks to discuss the first two options and try to find a more efficient approach to the “kayak launch” area. Pratt mentioned a previous conversation with a DE State Parks representative during which the representative expressed his preference in selecting the “kayak launch” area as opposed to Seal Island. The largest concern being future erosion and long-term monitoring.

There was a quick discussion about future grant research. This will be further discussed and analyzed at a later meeting once we identify the specific disposal of the dredge material.

The meeting was then opened to public participation.

Vicki Carmean - expressed appreciation for the committee's efforts

Steve Ross – North Schultz at point of lagoon – commodore of Fenwick Island Yacht Club. Very supportive of restoring Seal Island and highlighted the many benefits that would come from a restored Seal Island (incl wildlife, shoreline protection and community). Yacht Club looks forward to helping. Also expressed a willingness to serve on committee when the committees are reviewed/reformed in September.

Holly Frederick – Bunting Ave – also involved in Yacht Club. Supportive of Seal Island. Provided the town several pictures to support the NFWF grant process

Paul Breger – Bay Ave – expressed appreciation for committee's efforts. Expressed concern over the future erosion of a restored Seal Island which could then fill back into not only the boating channels being dredged but also the currently existing channels along with western side of the Fenwick property lines (Bora Bora/Bay Ave) and the eastern side of N Schultz. Feels the “kayak launch” area is a better option and would provide benefits to the Yacht Club by providing a new/improved boat launch area.

No other public comments.

The committee's next meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Pyne and seconded by Murphy to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.



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