

Thomaston Working Waterfront Master Plan

AGENDA

July 9, 2024

9:00 AM in Lura Libby Room of Town Office

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Introductions
3. Review meeting notes of June 4th
4. Presentation by Gulf of Maine Research Institute representative on how they are supporting resilience planning along the coast and how this might help us.
5. Update on the plans and schedule to implement the documentation of existing conditions and field assessments needed for the Master Plan. Mike Sabatini and Regina Leonard.
6. Outline of proposed Working Waterfront TIF. Matthew Eddy and Dan DeBord.
7. Update on river dredging. Dan DeBord.
8. Set date & time for next meeting. Suggest August 6th same time, same place.

Thomaston Working Waterfront Master Plan Meeting Notes

June 4, 2024

9:00 AM in Lura Libby Room of Town Office

- 1. Call meeting to order.**
- 2. Introductions**
- 3. Review meeting notes of May 7th**

John Fancy gave an update of the previous meeting.

- 4. Presentation by Phoebe Walsh from the Island Institute on clean energy in the working waterfront**

Phoebe Walsh from the Island Institute gave a presentation on clean energy on the working waterfront. Island Institute is promoting and supporting businesses that are transitioning from gas motor outboards to all electric. Electric motors reduce emissions and require less maintenance. Boat motors cause greater emissions than vehicles.

The current challenges with switching to all electric outboards are the high price points, the need for pier charging stations, and the ability for boats to travel further offshore.

The Island Institute assists with Spark grants to help fund waterfront projects that include charging infrastructure, marine electrification, etc.

- 5. Plans and schedule to implement the documentation of existing conditions and field assessments needed for the Master Plan. Mike Sabatini and Regina Leonard.**

Mike Sabatini discussed the proposed program to develop the Working Waterfront Master Plan in detail. He was questioned if the subcontractors to do the data gathering were in place (answer Yes) and if we really needed all this engineering as we all know what climate change is going to do to the harbor. Matt Graham reminded the group that Lyman-Morse needs to rebuild a seawall that was seriously damaged in the January storms and having the data proposed to be collected in this study would be a major help to them. Others agreed and the study will gather the data proposed by Landmark.

- 6. Proposed TIF discussion. Matthew Eddy and others.**

Dan DeBord outlined the proposed TIF and what it would fund. Lyman-Morse urged that credit enhancement be added. The need to better define the area to be included in the TIF needs to be done soon. Dan pointed out that the value captured by a TIF is determined as of April 1st each year.

7. Update on river dredging. Dan DeBord.

Dan explained the two issues, the depth of the dredge and how far into the harbor it would go, that were brought up in a recent meeting with the Army Corp of Engineers. The Harbor Committee recommended a 16-foot depth in a letter approved by the Select Board several months ago. Both the Harbor Committee and Lyman-Morse want the dredge to extend into the harbor area. A proposal, including cost and source of funding, needs to go to the Select Board for their review.

8. Set date & time for next meeting. Suggest July 9th same time, same place.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20.