

**NAUSET ESTUARY STAKEHOLDER GROUP (NESG)
MINUTES OF THE NESG MEETING ON 9/22/20**

Members Present:

Orleans Members: Charlie Carlson, Kevin Galligan, Mark Mathison, Steve Smith, John Kelly
Eastham Members: Jacqueline Beebe, Harry Swift, Shana Brogan, Jon Granlund

Members Not Present:

Trent Sullivan (Eastham), Alexander Cestauro (Eastham), Nate Sears (Orleans), Silvio Genao (Eastham)

Others Present: Leslie Fields of Woods Hole Group (WHG)

Acting Clerks: Jon Granlund and Charlie Carlson

Charlie Carlson called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Jacqui Beebe said the Town of Eastham is willing to provide a staff person to draft the minutes of future meetings. Her offer was quickly accepted.

The minutes of the NESG's August 6 and September 1 meetings were approved unanimously.

Leslie Field described her phone call with representatives of MEPA, the Cape Cod National Seashore (CCNS) and the Cape Cod Commission as well as Charlie Carlson regarding use of a so-called Special Review Procedure (SRP) for permitting of the Nauset Estuary dredging. The conclusion reached during this call was that a SRP is not necessary and the same coordination of agency reviews can be accomplished informally.

The NESG agreed later in the meeting that even without a SRP, agency representatives should be invited to attend future meetings of the NESG. However, these representatives will not become members of the NESG and will not receive meeting minutes and other committee communications in the usual course of business.

Leslie Field noted the CCNS concern regarding disputed ownership of certain land parcels on Nauset Spit and its ability to provide a special use permit to conduct dredging related activities on land that may not be owned by CCNS. WHG and CCNS will collaborate to determine whether any disputed parcels will be affected by the dredging activities.

Charlie Carlson reported that the Orleans Select Board has voted to recommend (1) additional funding for Nauset Estuary permitting as part of an article to be presented at the October Town Meeting, and (2) funding of studies related to dredging of the Mill Pond Channel, as part of a second Town Meeting warrant article.

The NESG discussed whether the Orleans and Eastham Select Boards should formally approve the proposed route for the dredge channel in Nauset Estuary. Mark Mathison said he expects the Orleans Select Board will follow the recommendations of the NESG and could provide this

approval at its October 21 meeting. Jacqui Beebe said she will discuss the approval with the Eastham Select Board at its October 19 meeting.

Leslie Field presented a revised timeline for the project. This timeline shows that a number of public meetings will take place in conjunction with agency reviews of the project. Shana Brogan suggested that an additional public information meeting should be scheduled before the expanded ENF is filed and committee members expressed support for this additional meeting. It is possible there will be a combined Eastham-Orleans meeting or two separate meetings in the two towns.

The NESG discussed the need for a second Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Orleans and Eastham that will apply during the permitting phase of the Nauset Estuary dredging project. Charlie Carlson agreed to provide an outline of the MOU and John Kelly agreed he would arrange for the drafting of the MOU,

The NESG then discussed comments on the project that were made by agency representatives at the September 1 meeting and agreed that these comments will be considered in development of the expanded Environmental Notification Form (ENF) that WHG is writing to commence the permitting process. Leslie Field noted that WHG will be developing additional information for inclusion in the ENG (e.g., shoaling rates in the Estuary, dewatering and red tide cyst management plan and shellfish mitigation plan). She said the additional data will be provided in early November.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 pm.