

July 8, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Oxford Board of Port Wardens was called to order by the Chairman, Thomas Campbell, at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 8, 2021 in the meeting room of the Oxford Community Services building.

Other board members in attendance were Robert Trevorrow and Robert Hyberg along with Town Planner Maria Brophy and Town Manager Cheryl Lewis.

The minutes of the Board of Port Wardens meeting of April 8, 2021, and May 13, 2021 were approved and accepted as distributed.

MAINTENANCE APPLICATIONS AND CONSULTATIONS

A maintenance application from Ronald Cutts for Cutts and Case Boatyard at 300 Tilghman Street was reviewed. Mr. Cutts requested approval to replace, in-kind, 10 to 12 existing pilings. Chairman Campbell reported that he had visited the property and Mr. Cutts had pointed out to him which pilings needed to be replaced. There were no questions from the other board members. Chairman Campbell made a motion to approve the maintenance permit. The motion was seconded by Mr. Trevorrow. Chairman Campbell added that should Mr. Cutts decide to do anymore work, other than what was being mentioned at this meeting, to let the board knows and to notify the town before the start of the project.

Another maintenance application had been received for Greg Pang, property owner at 103 N. Morris Street. Chairman Campbell stated that he had spoken with Mr. Pang's property manager earlier and it had been agreed that this application should be tabled until more information has been made available.

Property owner Bob Fay met with the board to discuss his plans to replace his existing dock at 305 Market Street. He explained that his dock has greatly deteriorated and that it had been built on a string of pilings. He presented photos of the changes he was looking to make to the dock noting that he had no plans to go any further out into the harbor but that some changes would be needed to make it easier for people to get on and off the dock. Though the same footprint would be used, there was an issue with the harbor line as the dock as it exists today extends outside the harbor line. Mr. Fay added that there were also pilings further out from the dock and encroaching even further into the harbor line. Chairman Campbell asked if Mr. Fay had a floating dock as well. Mr. Fay responded that he did and that he would like to keep it. Chairman Campbell noted that the floating dock should be indicated on Mr. Fay's application when he goes to make it. He explained to Mr. Fay that an application would need to be made to the Board of Port Wardens who would, in turn, need to turn down the request due to the circumstances in which the replacement dock, though being built in the same location as the existing one, would be extending past the harbor line. However, Mr. Fay would have the ability to request an appeal to the Commissioners and the Port Wardens would have the ability to give a recommendation in favor of the application. Chairman Campbell also suggested that Mr. Fay show on his application the parking that is available on his property as the property is zoned M-Maritime Industrial. Mr. Fay noted that he wanted to keep the ability to have future slips for rent because of his property being zoned commercial and that he could not currently rent out any slips given the present condition of the dock.

This concluded the review of maintenance applications and consultation.

PERMIT FOR REVIEW

#21-01, Edward Henneberry, 106 E. Division Street, request to stabilize 123 linear feet of shoreline with riprap and 104 linear feet of shoreline with living shoreline. Mr. Henneberry, along with a representative from Lane Engineering, and Mark Hill, from Bailey Marine Construction were present to explain the application. It was noted by the Lane Engineering representative that State and Federal approvals had been received for this project along with approval from Talbot County Conservation. Chairman Campbell asked Mr. Henneberry if a small boat ramp on the property was being removed. Mr. Henneberry responded that it was. He further explained that the shoreline had eroded substantially along with the combination of riprap materials. Those in the audience were asked if they had any questions or wanted to speak. No comments were received. Chairman Campbell stated that he did not have any questions and that it looked to him to be a good project other than he had noticed that Mr. Henneberry's dock had a large floating platform that was not mentioned in the drawings provided. Chairman Campbell notified Mr. Henneberry that this was a non-conforming platform and that he was bringing it up not to upset the applicant, but as a matter of bringing it to Mr. Henneberry's attention and to acknowledge it in the meeting. Otherwise, Chairman Campbell felt that what Mr. Henneberry was requesting to do looked to be a great idea. Mr. Hyberg stated that he had no questions as his one questions, regarding the ramp, had been answered. Mr. Hyberg made a motion to accept the proposal as presented provided the appropriate state and federal permits are approved. Mr. Trevorrow seconded the motion which was unanimously approved without further discussion.

Prior to adjourning, Mr. Hyberg asked about the Pang maintenance application and the request for a stone platform. He questioned if this was something that the board members needed to approve or not. Mr. Trevorrow responded that a structure was considered marine in nature if it was on the water. Chairman Campbell added that the owner wants stone steps with a stone platform with a working path down to the water. The owner has been asked to supply a plat and to notify his neighbors of his intent along with a drawing of what he wants to do. Town Manager Cheryl Lewis added that this request was no different than that of a dock as it involves water access.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Willoughby

Assistant Clerk

