FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK
RCUD 2026 OCT 27 PM3:19

Fairhaven Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2026

Present: Chair, Michael McNamara, Andy Jones, Robert Pink, Robert Hobson, Andrew Sunders and Harbormaster Timothy Cox.
Absent: David Hebert, David Darmofal

The meeting was videotaped by Cable Access and Zoom meeting application.

Mr. McNamara opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes from: May 2026
Motion: Mr. Pink motioned to approve minutes. Mr. Jones seconded, Vote (3-0-0)

FOTH Engineering -W.I. Dredging: Paul Marsala of FOTH engineering read over the scope of the dredging project on West Island. Sampling has been completed and they are exploring options for disposal of the sediment. The overall plan development has increased in volume. Hydraulic dredging for the beach and Mechanical dredging for off shore is ideal. The North side has come back showing signs of PCB's which will either require additional biological testing or the sediment to be disposed into the CAD cell. Jessica explained the next steps and timeframe for permitting. Discussion ensued regarding the project and timeframe.

Shellfish Mitigation fee – Mr. Sullivan Balsam St. Dock: Mr. McNamara read through documents from the Army Core regarding mitigation fee's in Massachusetts. Discussion ensued regarding the fee and whether the Marine Resource Committee has any jurisdiction to recommend anything to the Conservation Committee. The mitigation fee currently in place would calculate Mr. Sullivan's fee to be roughly $28,000. Mr. McNamara believes it is about a 400 square foot area that would impact shell fishing. Andy Jones spoke of the depth of the coastal dredging and other coastal towns that have By-Laws already in place. Heated debate ensued as to whether the committee should be proposing any type of fee and that the responsibility should lie with the Conservation Commission rather than the Marine Resource Committee. Mr. Cox will meet with Mr. Sullivan and the Conservation agent next week to discuss this matter.

Motion: Mr. Pink motioned to not recommend any mitigation fee. Mr. Jones seconded. Vote (3-0-0)

BPW representative Marine Resources project update: Mr. Hobson said Union Wharf has been weed whacked. He will obtain the key for the dumpster and have the BPW clean up that area as well. The Causeway rails are deteriorating and the BPW will be looking into what can be repaired.

Harbormaster Updates: Mr. Saunders explained the Chapter 91 process. The Selectboard approved that the Harbormaster and the Building Commissioner will sign off on the required documents prior to sending it to the state. Union Wharf has been renamed MacLean's Wharf in dedication to William (Biff)

MacLean who recently passed away. ACK has won the bid for the construction project at Union Wharf and will start this fall. Touch a Truck event and the Annual Fishing Derby are scheduled for tomorrow and Swim the Bay is on Saturday.

Shellfish Updates: The state has given the town permission to test North Cove in July and reopen the area to shell fishing.

Waterway Rules & Regs -Section 5 – Union Wharf:

Motion: Mr. Jones motioned to table this agenda item to the next meeting. Mr. Pink seconded. Vote (3-0-0)

Any other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of this meeting: None

Motion: Mr. Jones motioned to suspend the next meeting to September. Mr. Pink seconded. Vote (3-0-0)

Next meeting will be held September 10th at 6:30 pm. If any unforeseen circumstance comes up prior, an earlier meeting will be scheduled.

Motion: Mr. Jones motioned to adjourn. Mr. Pink seconded. Vote (3-0-0)
The meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Sharon Mills
Recording Secretary