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Boat Launch-Dighy Beach Task Force

1 message

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Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 3:26 PM

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Task force members: Rick Diachenko, Will Fountain, Jim Moffet & Cheryl Colangelo.

Look forward to updating the BOG

First Meeting was 30Jun20. Sharon Bruce joined us. The minutes were not published at that time and I made the mistake that Sharon was on the Task Force and not Cheryl. The mistake was corrected.

30Jul20 2:30 PM

Subject: Boat Launch, Right of Way, Dinghy Beach

Task: Review situation at Sea View Boat Launch and Dinghy Beach Area Rick Diachenko, Will Fountain, Sharon Bruce

Observations and Concerns:

Ownership of Right of Way

- East Lyme stated they don't own but do not have a record that BP does (per e-mail to Will Fountain from East Lyme)

- Bikes left in the grass on ROW

Property Lines

- Properties to the North and South have hedges that appear over property lines - Sea walls might be over also based on PVC marker found in hedges

Sidewalk along sea wall to north of ROW

- BP maintains it now but did BP build it? Should we?

- It acts as a direct path way from Sea Breeze beach to Dinghy beach. - Walkway needs repair and so does rail...BP responsibility or not?

Mean High Tide Mark

- Map from DEEP shows two stones that mark the line. However sea weed from last tides seem to show a different story.

Boat ramp to dinghy beach

- Very steep drop on this 15 foot access point. It needs major leveling work!

- Some crafts parked on beach are blocking access and need to be moved. Starting point for dinghy storage needs to be marked.

- According to residents in the area, crafts are stored there and hardly ever used. Area is full.

Signage

- No sign against sun bathing

- Sign says no dockage/swimming - Not clear - Does it mean no swimming from dock?

- Drivers ignore STOP sign on East Shore. A warning sign of boaters backing-up may be helpful.

Resident Interviews

- Residents stated to keep things the same - Boaters have right of way and beach goers and swimmers should yield and help

- Beach should be open to all with above restrictions

Boat Rigging Areas

- Areas on both sides of ROW should be reclaimed as staging areas for boat rigging and tear down

Recommendation for 1st step:

- Locate older maps, title search, survey
- From this determine is walkway will be maintained, Cost to repair ramp to Dinghy Beach and plans to reclaim boat staging area

2nd steps

- Access rules review and signage

Cheryl volunteered to contact others to find out the rules on other boat docks. Information to follow after her family visit.

Meeting Fri 21Aug20: Rick Diachenko, Will Fountain, Jim Moffet - (Cheryl Colaangelo - not available)

Observations:

- Property line issues on right of way
- Boat Ramp to beach has a large drop off. The original ramp was found to be about 2 feet lower than the right of way road
- Boats parked at edge of the beach ramp area block access for boaters trying to launch from beach using sand dollies
- DEEP map, approx 2017 by DEEP when boat dock was redone, shows the mean high tide mark. Two boulders shown on this map provide a line where BP jurisdiction is debated.
- Space is needed for rigging and de-rigging boats without blocking the boat launch.
- Bikes laying near boat dock a hazzard for trailers using the ramp
- Walkway between Sea Breeze beach and boat launch damaged. Question as to who owns?
- BP members living near the boat launch have comments for use of this beach other than boating. Boaters seemed more concerned over access where beach goers claim to help and want things the same for swimming and sunbathing. Past the high tide mark, our jurisdiction authority is diminished. Can medium ground be achieved?
- Rock near boat launch caused damage to a boat
- Signage may chage with input from this Task Force
- Last storm damaged 80" x 10' floating boat dock
- What exactly are limitations of size of boats allowed on this beach. One member has had a Catamaran on the beach for years and had to remove it this year. It was larger than his old one.
- Question on height of the kayak racks

Recommendations:

- A-2 survey to establish boundaries
 - Determine the legal width of the right of way
 - Determine who owns the sea walls if survey shows walls on BP property and not that of home owners
 - After survey, quote will be needed to clear areas parallel to right of way for rigging and de-rigging of boats
 - Sea wall walkway damage north of boat launch. Not our sea wall but need to determine if it is our walkway. At the very least, suggest a disclaimer sign be posted that the walkway is closed due to damage from erosion
- Sand needs to be moved to eliminate the large drop from the road on beach launch for safety of boaters and their craft. If a more permanent solution is preferred, a professional engineer may be required to re-build boat ramp to the beach. Old ramp is approximately 2 feet under the sand level. Re-build is more expensive but is a longer term solution. There is a concern, by some, of losing part of the beach by moving sand with washout caused by storms - that's why they prefer professional advise

- Boat parking on sand - Starting point signage needs to be marked to avoid blocking ramp for beach launches
- Lowering beach sand for ramp may also resolve kayak rack height issue

- Bike rack suggested at the NW corner of the right of way, away from the launch to avoid trailer accidents - \$250

- Replace 80" x 10' boat dock due to hole in top - \$2,500

- Rock near boat launch - Doubt DEEP will allow movement. Could add sign, "Sumerged Rock - Use Caution " or use a buoy to mark

- Neighbors comments need to be heard to determine whether we change the rules.

- Suggest we set a size limit for boats on the beach - I suggest we use 18 ft (Mr Sanders Boat which was removed) as a starting point of discussion.

Submitted by:
Rick Diachenko