

**Danvers River Committee**  
**Thursday January 17, 2019**  
**Meeting Minutes**

The Danvers River Committee held a public meeting on Thursday January 17, 2019 in the Daniel J. Toomey Hearing Room, Danvers Town Hall, at 6:00pm.

**Member(s) present:** Bill Fouhey  
Joan George  
Dan DeLorenzo  
Bob Moore  
Matthew Byrne  
Louie George  
Bill Nicholson  
Gardner Trask, Selectman Liaison

**Member(s) absent:** Aileen L'Abbe, Chairwoman

**Staff Present:** Christopher Sanborn, Harbormaster  
Carolann Powers, Secretary

**Media Present:** None

Dan Delorenzo called meeting called to order at 6:03 pm.

**Secretary's Report:**

The committee was asked to accept the minutes of the December 20, 2018 meeting.

**Motion:** Made by Bob Moore, seconded by Bill Fouhey to accept the minutes of the December 20, 2018; All in favor 7:0.

**New Business:**

Chris Sanborn informed the group that the committee's annual report has been completed and copies of it were shared with them. It was noted that Bill Nicholson's name was missing as being listed as a member and Gardner Trask's name was missing as the selectmen's liaison. Chris will see that those corrections can be made. The committee agreed that the report was very detailed and summed up the year well. It was nicely written

**Old Business:**

Chris S. updated the committee on the status of the bank stabilization project at the Crane River. The town is finalizing a contract with CDM Smith for the design and engineer phase of the project. The contract is currently being reviewed by town counsel and should

be signed within the next few weeks. Chris stated we are in good shape and making progress with this project. Louie George asked if anything needed to be done for this year's annual town meeting budget wise. Chris S. not at this time. Dan DeLorenzo asked at what point will we know an estimated cost or the bank stabilization project. Chris said he expects to know by this time next year and be able to present it at next year's annual town meeting

Chris discussed the Waterfront Fees for the 2019 boating season. He said he was not recommending an increase to fees this year as last year was the second year of a two-year increase for the dockage rates. He is concerned that an additional increase will have a negative impact. He said Danvers is at or above the mark of other community's fees and does not want to price Danvers out of the market. His recommendation is to keep fees where they currently are.

Bill Fouhey asked about the status of the pictures of the rip rap at Forest River Park in Salem that Steve King, Town Engineer, said he would share with Chris and the River Committee. Chris said he has seen the photos but did not have them to forward to the committee but would see if he can get them to share with the group. Chris did note that he was not totally content with the pictures he saw. Chris thinks CDM Smith would like to do what they did at Forest River Park in Salem as they know it is a permissible solution. Chris said they will conduct a peer review with all involved to determine what they are confident will get state approval for permitting. Louie G. asked how long ago the revetment in the Sam & Joes area of the Crane River was installed, as that is a solution the committee would like to see. Chris was not sure of the age of that project. Louie G. was wondering if it was perhaps permitted prior to when the current requirements were put into place, would it be possible for the town to be grandfathered in to a similar revetment. Chris noted that the type of revetment/wall at the Sam and Joes location can cause more turbulence in the river with tides etc...and ultimately can cause more erosion; so, we may not want that solution as it would cause more erosion to the area particularly further down for neighbors up river. Bill Fouhey asked if it would be a possible solution to install some type of jetty in the area that would redirect the water to avoid some of that turbulence. Chris said it has been discussed but from an engineering perspective it may not be entirely possible due to some circulation effects in the water the jetty may redirect the problem to others.

Chris updated the group regarding the status of the Harbormaster's Department budget. He informed the group that \$500 was added to the operations budget to offset spending in the revolving account. He has additionally sought \$225,000 in capital equipment for replacement of the 31-year-old patrol/fire boat as well as \$6,000 in replacement aids to navigation (ATONS). If these items are not fully funded in this upcoming budget Chris is hopeful that half would be funded in this year's budget and half in next year's budget. He noted that this year's budget proposal included slight wage increases for Harbormaster staff.

Chris said we want to pursue grants for the bank stabilization and don't want to do it too close to dredging. As far as dredging grants go the state is looking for more city/town

cost share and those communities partnering with local marinas and other community organizations to assist in funding for the dredging. Bill F. thinks a goal of aiming for May of 2020 for the bank stabilization sounds reasonable. Matt Byrne asked if this is the type of work done over the winter months, Chris S. said yes, so likely if funded at town meeting in May the project could potentially begin in December 2020. Dan Delorenzo noted there are a lot of committees the project would need to go before for approvals to get to that point which does take time. Chris hopes that because of the peer review associated with this project and them presenting a valid plan recommended from the peer review group it will help the permitting review process move more quickly than if it did not.

Dan Delorenzo noted that there is very little ice in the river this winter to date; the committee agreed and is hopeful this means less damage to property in the river.

**Motion:** Motion made by Bill Fouhey, seconded by Bob Moore, to adjourn the meeting of January 17, 2019. All in favor: 7:0

cc: Steve Bartha, Town Manager  
David Mountain, Recreation Director