

DEVELOPMENTS

GHYC alters clubhouse plan

By PETER B. BRACE
INDEPENDENT WRITER

The Great Harbor Yacht Club will move the location of its clubhouse so that it can use a more movable Travelift to haul boats instead of a crane.

Great Harbor Yacht Club developer Blake Drexler said last week that the clubhouse will be sited back from the water and that its length will be shortened to make the distance between the east end of the building 50 to 60 feet from the edge of the east bulkhead. This will give the Travelift boat hauler/launcher enough room to operate on the south side of the club's wharf as was originally planned.

Great Harbor's original Planning Board filing called for moving the Travelift — a mobile boat hauler — from its current operating location on the north side of the Washington Street Ext. property to the south side. But then the town claimed ownership of a 1,440-foot thin wedge of land along the southern boundary of the club, rendering the proposed Travelift operating area useless. Great Harbor then began legal action to prove ownership of the land, a case that continues today, and proposed to use a 30-ton crane, along with a huge boat forklift, to shift boats in and out of the harbor.

"We own the triangle and we've always owned the triangle," declared Great Harbor Yacht Club developer Blake Drexler. "We need to resolve the issue to move forward, [but] for us the solution now is to readjust how the clubhouse sits on the property. So we pulled the clubhouse back, and that allows us to let the Travelift drive through. The net result is we're creating a bigger platform on the water side."

This new plan appears to represent an effort by Great Harbor to expedite the opening of the club's facilities. Drexler said that most of the club will

"We own the triangle and we've always owned the triangle. We need to resolve the issue to move forward, [but] for us the solution now is to readjust how the clubhouse sits on the property. So we pulled the clubhouse back, and that allows us to let the Travelift drive through. The net result is we're creating a bigger platform on the water side."

— Blake Drexler
Great Harbor Yacht Club

be ready for the 2008 season and that the clubhouse should be completed by mid-March 2009.

"The entire club will be operational with the exception of the clubhouse building," said Drexler. "Our intention is to start construction on the clubhouse in early spring."

The boat maintenance barn and sports building across the street are constructed and weather-tight with interior work going on right now. Drexler added that all of the club's infrastructure, including drainage, utilities, parking and landscaping, will be completed by early spring this year. The club's out-of-town swim and tennis component at the former Nantucket Tennis & Swim Club at 23 Nobadeer Farm Road, will be running by the summer as well, Drexler said.

Outstanding issues include the club's Chapter 91 Waterways License from the Department of Environmental Protection, due out last April, and a ruling on a pending appeal by 10 commercial scallopers of the club's Conservation Commission order of conditions for its 40-slip docks-and-pier plan. ■

CAPE WIND

Continued from page 5

Viewers of the wind farm from the closest shorelines, including those in Hyannis, Hyannisport, Mashpee and Centerville, would experience minor disruptions during construction and would be moderately disrupted during its operation. Both sides seem to agree with the MMS's assessment that there would be a major impact of views from vessels on Nantucket Sound. Wattley added that all these impacts could negatively impact the regional economy.

"The whole issue of disruption on the horizon; there are restrictions on the aesthetics on Cape Cod," said Wattley of some of the towns closest to the project. "It's been a controversial one, so to call it a minor impact certainly minimizes the controversy over that issue. The people who are worried

about tourism and related businesses; it's a big issue for them, it's not minor."

Rodgers more or less agreed with Wattley on the severity of visual impacts from land and sea.

"If you're in a boat right next to the wind farm, the seascape looks very different than it did before," said Rodgers.

And it will for the sailors in the annual Figawi race between Nantucket and Hyannis on Memorial Day weekend, as the MMS believes the Figawis will experience moderate impacts while racing near the wind turbines.

"The people who do the Figawi head in that direction and a significant portion of the course goes across Horseshoe Shoal," said Wattley.

Rodgers said experienced sailors should be up to the task of navigating around and through new obstacles that are 600 to 900 yards apart in their course. ■



Patty Roggeveen



Allen Reinhard



Whitey Willauer



Brian Chadwick



Mike Kopko

ON SELECTMEN

There is no Board of Selectmen meeting this Wednesday, because it is the fifth Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be held on Feb 6.

AT ITS MEETING ON JAN. 23, THE BOARD FIRST CONVENED AS THE BOARD OF HEALTH AND:

- Voted unanimously approved three "tight tanks" — self contained sewer holding tanks with no leech out — for homes at 34 and 45 Massachusetts Ave. and 289 Hummock Pond Road. Health Inspector Richard ray said the tanks themselves and locations were approved by the Department of Environmental Protection, but will not be installed until he determines what the "privilege fee" should be for the residents to dispose of the waste at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Ray said he expects between eight and 10 of these tanks to be installed islandwide. Department of Public Works director Jeff Willett said he hope the board would consider the impact the tight tanks would have on the Wastewater Treatment Plant before approving large numbers of them.

CONVENING AS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, MEMBERS;

- Led by County Commission Chair Brian Chadwick, voted to send Sheriff Richard Bretschneider a letter inquiring as to the status of some spending request regarding radio equipment for the State Police as well as the status of a \$25,000 retinal eye scanner which was to be used to identify lost children through cooperation with the school system. The school did not wish to participate in the program that would have required students to have their retinal scanned, stored. In the event they became lost, their eye could be scanned and compared against the database. A similar scanner went to the sheriff of Martha's Vineyard at no cost from Bretschneider. Chadwick also sought information from both legislative liaison Tim Madden and town counsel as to the impact of the state's taking over the budget of the county sheriff and what impact that would have on funds Bretschneider had promised to contribute to both the proposed public safety complex and a island-wide emergency service radio communication system.

CONVENING AS THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, MEMBERS:

- Heard a review of the Department of Parks and Recreation on the workings of the department and the management of lands held by the town for the public use. Parks and Recreation director Jimmy Manchester laid out short, medium and long term goals which include adding a bath house at Madaket Beach, expanding the bath house at Surfside Beach and having the teen center program be the sole occupant of the Teen Center building, which it currently shares with the Adult Community Day Care. Manchester also informed the board that beginning this summer the lifeguards will be under the supervision and control of the beach manager, rather than the Department of Parks and Recreation.

- Town Clerk Catherine Flanagan Stover requested a raise from \$80,334 to \$87,000 next year and \$94,000 the following year setting her pay be on par with other department heads. Board members asked for comparisons to other town clerks of similar sized towns on Cape Cod and eventually settled on a five percent or \$4,016 raise for this year only.

- Selectmen Michael Kopko proposed holding another round of budget meetings with Town Manager Libby Gibson and one other selectmen to see if there are any other cuts that could be made in advance of Town Meeting. Selectmen Patty Roggeveen and Brian Chadwick both wanted to participate in the work group, which would constitute a quorum, which Kopko did not want to have. Kopko said he felt more would be accomplished if the meeting was smaller in size and brushed off concerns of not being transparent because any changes would have to be brought back before the board. The members eventually voted for the meetings to include all selectmen who wanted to participate and thus, the meeting would be open to the public and posted on the meeting board at town hall.

— Compiled by Peter Sutters