

[Ext]Newburyport Shipbuilding Memorial

James Hyland [lps@naisp.net]

Sent: Wednesday, March 03, 2021 3:20 PM**To:** NBPT Mayor; Andrew Port; wilbur shenk [wshenk@bright.net]; Jared Eigerman**Attachments:**WFT memo to Ad Hoc Waterfr~1.pdf (188 KB) ; McKay 14.jpeg (2 MB) ; McKay 11.jpg (4 MB) ; McKay 13.jpeg (1 MB)*external e-mail use caution opening*

Hi Donna,

I just wanted to check in with you and make sure you received a copy of our CPA proposal to create a Newburyport Shipbuilding Memorial. Our sculptor, Michael Keropian, who you met earlier, has come up with a three dimensional "sketch" for this proposed work-of-art. I wanted you to see those images, so I'm attaching them here. Together, we made a presentation recently to the Waterfront Trust committee. It went very well, and they were willing to endorse the project. I've attached a copy of their letter here, as well.

I also had a conversation the other day with Ghlee Woodworth. She liked the project, and wished us the best, but she also voiced concern that our efforts might get caught up in bureaucratic red tape, effectively icing our project, and putting it on hold for years, waiting for the architects to get approval for the Market Landing Park Expansion design, etc. If this really is the case, it could thus, once again, prohibit our seeking funding from the CPA committee at this time, in a similar way to what happened last year with our other (First Coastal Guardians) design proposal.

In light of that possibility, I wonder if you, Andrew Port, Wilbur Shenk, and Jared Eigerman would help us figure out how to circumvent this potentially project-killing scenario that would prevent us from moving forward at this time, and possibly for years to come. One idea I had was to allow us to temporarily designate the first phase of our proposed CPA project, which is just the construction of a one person statue (shipbuilder Donald McKay at a drafting table - without the accompanying exhibition walls) to be placed initially somewhere on the Waterfront Trust property (at least theoretically), where there should be room for it somewhere, if need be. (The statue itself will not take up too much room - probably not more than a diameter of about 8 feet). We anticipate that it's going to take us 2 years to finish this first phase, anyhow, and by that time, hopefully, the architects will have landed on the theme we've suggested for the Market Landing Park Expansion, and that is a memorial to Newburyport's shipbuilding heritage. In that way, we can be making progress on the memorial, which everyone seems to love and admits is long overdue, and we won't have to wait indefinitely for who knows how many years. Anyhow, I'm wondering if you can help us out with this potential dilemma, and give us a hand in suggesting an appropriate solution. Thanks so much. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Best regards,

Jay Hyland

The Lighthouse Preservation Society

P.S. - You might also want to check out the front page article on our proposal, that came out this week in The Town Common.