

**Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Cisco Webex Virtual Meeting**  
**Monday, July 6, 2020**  
**6:00 p.m.**

The Stonington Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee held a special virtual meeting on this date, Monday, July 6, 2020 via Cisco Webex meeting platform.

Present were Nick Kepple, Chairman, Breck Perkins, Mike Crowley, Tom Switz, Steve White, Kathryn Burchenal, Rick Broberg, Deb Downie, Stonington Board of Selectwomen liaison and Sandy Tissiery, Recording Secretary; as well as Chad Frost, Principal, Kent + Frost, Fran Hoffman and an interested citizen

Members Absent: Mike O'Neill, Vice Chairman; Tim O'Brien, Farouk Rajab, Jim Kelley and Steve Planchon,

1. **Call to order**

Chairman Nick Kepple called the meeting the order at 6:05 p.m.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The group joined together for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Seating of Alternates**

Alternates were not seated.

4. **Comments from the Public**

There were not any public comments.

5. **Approval of minutes**

The minutes from the June 1, 2020 Regular meeting were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Tom Switz and seconded by Mike Crowley to approve the June 1, 2020 Regular meeting as presented.

The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

6. **Correspondence**

There wasn't any correspondence.

7. **Old Business**

• **Discussion – Brownfield Grant application update**

Chairman Nick Kepple reported he has been working with Susan Cullen, Stonington Director of Economic and Community Development, and Deb Downie on finalizing the text of the grant. Chairman Kepple said the Department of Economic Community Development (DECD) has not released the grant applications as the State of Connecticut Bonding Commission has not met yet to authorize the funds. While waiting for this to process, it will provide more time to get the grant application and its support documents prepared.

• **Project Budget Update**

Chad Frost reported he will create a grid with a time schedule and budget schedule for the permitting process and distribute it to the committee. Chad Frost said he has been working Susan Cullen on processing the final invoices for the remediation plan so the remainder of the current budget can be determined.

Fran Hoffman said the owner of Seaview Snack Bar and Twisters Ice Cream Stand, that is located next door to the property, contacted her to find out more about the project and how it may impact his businesses. Deb Downie will reach out to him.

• **Discussion – Update from Friends of Stonington Crew**

Mike O'Neill was not present so this item was not discussed.

Chairman Kepple discussed two old business items. The first one was the request for a name change of the Mystic River Park saying he wanted to remind the committee this is an item of consideration. Mike Crowley opined he thought it had been discussed there is community interest in adding Stonington to the name of the park. Chairman Kepple said the second item that was still open was the request from the Mystic Harbor Management Commission for the park to include a dinghy dock. Steve White

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suggested the location of the dinghy dock be closer to the property of the Sea Swirl which could be beneficial to their business. Chad Frost said his last conversation with the Mystic Harbor Management Commission regarding the dinghy dock was a discussion about a partnership with them to build a public dinghy dock. These items need to be kept in consideration.

**8. New Business**

Chad Frost reported the contract has been signed for the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation study to be done and it will be started this week.

Chairman Kepple discussed with the committee interim use of park by the community. The committee discussed the possibilities of uses due to the contamination. Chad Frost said interim use by the public wouldn't be possible without full remediation but if there was a specific use then, maybe, there is a way to make it work. Mike Crowley, speaking of behalf of the recreation committee, said due to the restrictions right now under the pandemic, this shouldn't be considered this year. Mike Crowley commented the parking issue stills needs to be discussed. Chairman Kepple reiterated the importance of finding interim uses for the property by the public and the committee will continue the discussion on what these uses might be. Committee suggestions for use should be forwarded to Chairman Kepple.

**9. Comments from the Public**

There weren't any public comments.

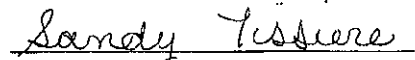
**10. Comments from the Committee**

Breck Perkins spoke of four points of rowing on the Mystic River, one out of Noank, the YMCA, Groton Parks and Recreation and some of the Stonington crew and suggested these four groups should meet to discuss what is going on with the park. Chairman Kepple suggested The Friends of Stonington Crew reach out to these other entities to initiate a meeting and discussion.

**11. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Mike Crowley and seconded by Breck Perkins to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.  
The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandy Tissiere  
Recording Secretary