

May 4, 2021

The Waterfront Commission held a regular virtual meeting on this date at 6:30 p.m. Members signed on were Chairman Sandy Grimes; Ethan Grimes, Bob Guzzo, Raeven Dinwoodie and Gene Pfeifer.

Mr. Grimshaw and Ms. Hayes-Houlihan were absent.

Chairman Grimes called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

Comments from the Public – A resident was signed in to speak about the Stonington Village Improvement Association Farmers Market. Chairman Grimes and all members present agreed to move item up from Correspondence to discuss. It was reported that over 90% of all farmers are in favor of continuing to hold the market at the Velvet Mill. There are amenities not available to participants at the Town Dock. Discussion ensued, addressing that Market seems to have grown beyond its original intent to support farmers and their goods, limited parking, traffic, and safety for pedestrians. The Town Dock, leased by the Southern New England Fisherman's and Lobsterman's Association is a working dock for the fleet which includes weekends. It has been working well with Farmers Market held at Velvet Mill. At this time, Raeven Dinwoodie made a motion to support the SVIA Farmers Market remain at the Velvet Mill. Mr. Pfeifer seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report – As of this date, the balance in the Waterfront Commission account is \$425.00. Mr. Guzzo made a motion to accept the report as read. Ms. Dinwoodie seconded the motion, and voting was unanimous.

Previous Minutes – Mr. Pfeifer made a motion to approve the minutes of the April meeting. Mr. E. Grimes seconded the motion, and voting was unanimous.

Old Business

- Dock Area Maintenance/Repairs – Mr. Guzzo reported that he is working with the First Selectman on acquiring grant funding for work that needs to be addressed. A video taken of the dock area has been retrieved which highlights need for repairs. The ice machine is working and the roof of the Seawell cooler building is coming due for repair. Mr. Guzzo praised the First Selectman for all her help and the SNEFLA is most appreciative of her assistance.
- Mr. Guzzo informed the members of a complaint brought up regarding an excess of pallets at the dock and safety issues. This will be addressed.
- Historic Town Dock signage – State and Local – Chairman Grimes reported that he spoke with Representative Greg Howard who reached out to the State Department of Transportation regarding signage for the Dock, to alert visitors to the area. There is apparently a question as to whether this is an historic site.

Members agreed wording of request may not be appropriate however this is the last fishing fleet with its own dock so all agree it should be recognized.

- Donahue Park – Mr. Pfeifer reported that the signage at the park needs to be updated, it is quite faded and unreadable. Members discussed the items addressed by the Beautification Committee at it's November 2020 meeting regarding improvements at the Park. Mr. Pfeifer asked about the musical instrument at the Park. Chairman Grimes stated the instruments are throughout Pawcatuck and Westerly. The commission asked by Harmony Park to place an instrument at the Park.

New Business –

- Chairman Grimes informed the members that he was contacted by the Ocean Community Chamber of Commerce regarding the Lobster Trap Christmas Tree planned for the Town Dock. Mr. Pfeifer read that the deadline to support is July 1st. Mr. Guzzo made a motion to support the Lobster trap Tree. Ms. Dinwoodie seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.
- Chairman Grimes stated that he spoke with the First Selectman regarding 75 Stillman Avenue. The Town is looking into a grant from DEEP to investigate the area for contamination. It would be beneficial to revitalize this area now nationally recognized Wild and Scenic Pawcatuck River.
- Stonington Small Boat Association forwarded for members' review: member roster, Rules and Regulations and Financial Summary.
- Chairman Grimes reported that the Planning & Zoning Department is working with him on the Rights of Ways in the Town.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Pfeifer made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Dinwoodie seconded the motion, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

lp

Respectfully submitted,

Ethan Grimes/s/

