

**TOWN OF STONINGTON
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MYSTIC RIVER BOATHOUSE PARK IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Stonington Police Department Meeting Room
173 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT 06379
Monday, July 18, 2022
6:00 P.M.

The Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee and Board of Selectmen held a special joint meeting on July 18, 2022 at the Stonington Police Department.

Present: Switz, O'Neill, Kepple (by phone), Kelley, Planchon, Rajab, Perkins, O'Brien, and from BOS (Selectman Strunk, First Selectman Chesebrough, Selectman Downie), Director Cullen (staff)

1. Call to Order – Chairman Kepple and First Selectman Chesebrough called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Comments from the Public - None
4. Approval of Minutes - None
5. Correspondence - None
6. Old Business
 - Updates on Master Plan and Site Plan Process – Cullen stated that Down to Earth Consulting had been hired to do the geotechnical engineering that is required, Frost & Kent had been hired to manage the permitting process and act as the owner's representative for the town, and AECOM has been hired as the Licensed Environmental Professional firm to act for the town to handle the brownfield portion of the scope of work. Cullen thanked Frost for his assistance in facilitating the kick off meeting while she was ill. Frost discussed the critical path deadlines and choices that would need to be made. Frost stated that by today, 50 percent of the design development is completed and it will be at 100 percent by August 1. Plan is for Frost to submit local permit by October 1 to start the 3-4 months master plan and site plan process. By the end of the year, the park should be fully permitted. Fran Hoffman (public) asked if the committee had considered in the design about possible client uses and if the committee had possibly asked them about how they might use them. O'Neill responded that the committee had investigated this in depth. Frost asked the committee to pick from two different options so that he could take the 50 percent design to 100 percent before the next meeting. Matt Beaudoin (public) asked for the cost of the boardwalk. Downie answered him that it was six figures. Kelley answered that it was at least half a million dollars. Kepple supported Option 1 to continue without permitting for the boardwalk and larger pier sections. Perkins asked if the retaining

walls associated with the pier/boardwalk were also necessary for other purposes. Frost explained that the living shoreline and sustainability would be better without the hardscape structures. Downie and Cullen concurred with this assessment. O'Neill asked if the current 20 x 40 public dock could be made larger. Frost said it could be made larger. Downie reminded that this dock is for pedestrians carrying canoes, kayaks, etc. This is not a powerboat/vehicle type of ramp. Perkins and Frost discussed the lighting on site. Perkins made a motion to accept Option 1 and Switz seconded the motion. All in favor. Matt Beaudoin (public) asked Frost an additional question regarding the shape of the dock versus launching capabilities.

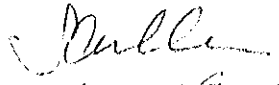
8. New Business

- Updates on rowing center fundraising progress – O'Neill reported that the complex itself (not the building which will be Hart Perry) will be named for Jim Dietz. This is not the name of the park itself which will be chosen as discussed in the May meeting. A six-figure donation was made to help move the project forward and the Phase Zero Architects from Simsbury will be working with the South County Post and Beam to go forward. An Open House is planned for August 6. Downie reminded O'Neill that the Department of Health had restricted the site to older children and adults and that it might not be possible to hold the open house there.

9. Comments from the Public - None

10. Comments from the Committee and Board of Selectmen – Switz congratulated the staff on their hard work.

11 . Adjourned at 7:03pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Director of Econ + Comm Dev


First Selectman