

**Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Stonington Police Department, Pawcatuck, CT  
Monday, March 2, 2020  
6:00 p.m.**

The Stonington Mystic River Boathouse Park Implementation Committee held a regular meeting on this date, Monday, March 2, 2020 at the Stonington Police Department at 6:00 p.m.

Present were Tom Switz, Steve Planchon, Farouk Rajab, Kathryn Burchenal, Jim Kelley, Deb Downie, Board of Selectwomen liaison and Sandy Tissiere, Recording Secretary; as well as Chad Frost, Principal, Kent + Frost, Fran Hoffman, CUSH (Clean Up Sound and Harbors); interested citizens and Stonington High School students

Late Arrival: Nick Kepple, Chairman, 6:52 p.m.

Members Absent: Mike O'Neill, Vice Chairman; Tim O'Brien, Steve White, Breck Perkins and Mike Crowley

1. **Call to order**

Tom Switz called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

Jim Kelley and Katherine Burchenal were seated as alternates.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The group joined together for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Comments from the Public**

There were not any public comments.

4. **Approval of minutes**

The minutes from the February 3, 2020 Regular meeting were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Farouk Rajab and seconded by Jim Kelley to approve the February 3, 2020 minutes as presented.

The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

5. **Correspondence**

There wasn't any correspondence.

6. **Old Business**

• **Discussion -- Brownfield Grant application update**

Fran Hoffman reported on the meeting between the Board of Selectmen, the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and the Brownfields Grant people saying the meeting was very productive. Fran Hoffman continued saying that she, Deb Downie and Kathryn Burchenal, in conjunction with the grant writer from Mystic Seaport Museum, have been working on the grant application developed by Keith Brynes, Acting Director of Planning, Town of Stonington. Fran Hoffman said, for right now, they are working on pursuing state funding but there is federal funding that will be considered as well. Regarding the Brownfields grant, Deb Downie said there are still some pieces that still need to be added and backup information that needs to be gathered. Fran Hoffman and Rob Simmons will be working together to get letters of support from community agencies. It was concurred once the grant application was finished; it should be reviewed by a variety of people to ensure it is inclusive of all necessary components.

Deb Downie, Fran Hoffman and Kathryn Burchenal discussed with the committee different grants that may be of interest to the project depending on need. The committee asked for clarification on these grants.

1. Deb Downie discussed the state remediation grant saying, at this time, the amount of the grant is unavailable. It is best to be prepared with the grant application and when criteria become available it can be incorporated.
2. Fran Hoffman spoke about EPA remediation funds that will be available. Fran Hoffman said she will be alerted when the money is available and when the training session is for grant applicants. Fran Hoffman also said there is a PowerPoint demonstration on their website that is very informative for grant applicants.
3. Kathryn Burchenal reported on the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation – Long Island Futures Fund, saying there will be funding available and it would be worth applying for.

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Chad Frost said, in the process of trying to finalize the scope, he had a meeting with the director of DEEP (Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental) about water resources. Chad Frost reported it was a very good meeting and they are supportive of a living shoreline, however, there has to be consideration of the current aquatic species habitats that currently exist. Chad Frost said he is currently looking for experts to perform an environmental study on the shoreline. Chad Frost said they are working on the right team to create the living shoreline.

- Discussion – Park timeline and costs for permits update (Kent + Frost)  
Chad Frost said he is still working on the final information for the timeline and permits cost and will present it to the committee at the April meeting.
- Discussion – Update from Friends of Stonington Crew  
Mike O'Neill was not present so this item was not discussed.

**7. New Business**

- Discussion – Mystic Seaport Museum hotel project in relation to the park  
Deb Downie spoke about the easement and shared parking. Chad Frost said the Mystic Seaport hotel project is going forward and there will seven shared parking spaces between the hotel and park. The committee discussed the parking logistics between the hotel and the park.

Chairman Kepple said the committee was aware of the easement that the Mystic Seaport Museum has over the property and it was factored into the master plan. Chairman Kepple continued, saying in acknowledgment of the easement rights that were granted to Mystic Seaport Museum, broadly stated, rather than try to go back to the master plan which excluded Mystic Seaport Museum parking, the shared parking is an acknowledgement that easement language between the town and a private party is broadly stated and is what the master plan reflects. Chairman Kepple said the Mystic Seaport Museum is relying on their interpretation of easement rights that have been commented and agreed upon by the town's attorney and their permitting process and when this project goes through its side of it, we will share with permitting, planning and zoning and the police commission the basis of why we crafted the master plan as we have.

**8. Comments from the Public**

There weren't any public comments.

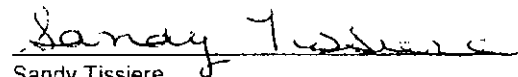
**9. Comments from the Committee**

There weren't any committee comments.

**10. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Jim Kelley and seconded by Farouk Rajab to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.  
The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandy Tissièrè  
Recording Secretary