

February 11, 2019

The Waterfront Commission held a regular meeting on this date at the Town Dock meeting room, Stonington, CT. Members present were Chairman Sandy Grimes; Bill Bomster; Mike Grimshaw; Ethan Grimes; Alene Whipple and Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan.

Chairman Grimes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Comments from the Public – None

Commission members unanimously agreed to amend agenda starting with New Business thereby welcoming Police Chief Darren Stewart, Captain Todd Olson and Stonington Village Improvement Association representative. The commission shared their concerns regarding the Farmers Market and other events held at the Town Dock field. Parking and safety issues as well as interference to businesses operating at the Dock have been an ongoing issue. Mrs. Whipple suggested a parking attendant, Mr. S. Grimes suggested a Community Service Officer to monitor parking. After discussion, Chief Stewart stated he felt best action would be to take picture of vehicle plate, call Police Department who would then have car towed. The SVIA representative stated she would go back to her Association and share the concerns of the WFC and will attend next meeting to work on further.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Bomster made a motion to accept the Treasurers report as read. The balance in the WFC account is \$675.00. Mrs. Hayes-Houlihan seconded, and voting was unanimous.

Previous Minutes – Mr. E. Grimes made a motion to approve the minutes of the January meeting as presented. Mr. Bomster seconded, and voting was unanimous.

Old Business

- Dock Area Housekeeping/Maintenance Repairs –

Mr. Grimshaw informed the members that the Town has agreed to take the tires placed in the dumpster. Planking repairs needed as well. There were two invoices submitted by SNS Electric totaling \$21,157.83. As there was insufficient detail for these invoices, no

action was taken. Mrs. Whipple stated she would contact SNS Electric for more information.

- Fuel tank update –

Mr. Grimshaw reported that he and Mr. Bomster, along with Plato of Atlas Environmental met with the Town January 18, 2019. Atlas Environmental was a considerable help. The tanks are going to be placed in same location as current tank. It is expected to take two weeks to complete and East River Energy will provide a temporary tank for fueling. No start date available currently.

- Donahue Park –

Tim Lebling and Julie Holland were present to discuss the Harmony Trail project. This project places outdoor musical instruments in appropriate locations chosen for safety and use to help create outdoor music spaces . Mr. Lebling stated this project is worldwide with great success. They plan to place between 8 and 15 instruments throughout downtown Pawcatuck and Westerly, with Donahue Park as an excellent location. The plan is to place up to 3 instruments at the Park. They are also working with the Beautification Committee. Mrs. Holland asked that the Commission advocate for better lighting and cameras at the Park. Mrs. Hayes-Houlihan asked who they would see about lighting at the Park. Mr. Bomster made a motion supporting the Harmony Trail use of Donahue Park. Mrs. Whipple seconded and voting was unanimous.

- Port Authority Grant –

Mr. Grimshaw informed the Commission that the engineering firm hired by the Town, STANTEC attended the last SNEFLA Board of Directors meeting. The Board pointed out all areas of concern and the necessity of repairs as soon as possible. Divers have videotaped the South Dock.

Additional New Business –

Mr. Grimshaw reported that he attended the Blue Water program meeting. Sid Holbrook has signed on as representative for SNEFLA.

Correspondence –

Westerly Sun article regarding First Selectman's meeting at the dock with Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz to emphasize the critical importance of repairing the dock infrastructure both because of the fishing fleet's role in culinary tourism and the pier's role in the town's coastal resiliency.

New London Day article regarding Senator Somers introduction of a bill to help the Stonington Fishing fleet stay afloat amid the sea of federal and state regulations that are hurting their businesses.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Bomster made a motion to adjourn. Mr. E. Grimes seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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