

November 29, 2023

The Waterfront Commission held a special meeting on this date at 6:00 p.m. Members in attendance were Sandy Grimes, Chairman; Gene Pfeifer; Mike Grimshaw; Bob Guzzo; Lyndsey Pryke-Fairchild and Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan. Director of Public Works Jeff Pescosolido and First Selectman Danielle Chesebrough were also present.

Ethan Grimes and Michael Grimshaw were absent.

Chairman Grimes called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Comments from the Public – None

Treasurer's Report – As of this date, the balance in the Waterfront Commission account is \$1900. Ms. Hayes-Houlihan made a motion to accept the report as read. Motion was seconded by Mr. Pfeifer and unanimously approved.

Previous Minutes – Mr. Guzzo made a motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Ms. Hayes-Houlihan seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Old Business

- Dock Area Housekeeping/ Maintenance & repairs – Director of Public Works Jeff Pescosolido was present and informed the members of the fuel system damage due to storm surge last year. The Board of Finance approved monies for Town Highway Department to complete repairs which are ongoing.

At this time, Ms. Hayes-Houlihan voiced her concerns with the alarming amount of traffic due to the lighting of the Lobster Trap Tree. She stated she wasn't aware of police guiding traffic.

Ms. Chesebrough stated there were two officers present and buses were used. She stated there was to be a debriefing to go over any concerns and invited Ms. Hayes-Houlihan to join the discussion.

- Donahue Park – All is well. Chairman Grimes informed Mr. Pescosolido of the damage to the railing along the ramp discussed at the September meeting.
- Dock Signage – Mr. Pfeifer has a meeting scheduled with State Representative Aundre Bumgardner December 7th to continue discussion. Ms. Pryke-Fairchild reported that she has located signage previously at dock and all hope that this will meet historical criteria for approval. Ms. Chesebrough stated she would work with Mr. Pfeifer on this matter.

Town Rights of Way – Mr. Pfeifer asked that the Town address public access waterways.

New Business

- North Pier Renovation Project – Ms. Chesebrough informed the Commission that the \$250,000 grant from the CT. Port Authority is moving forward. The Request for Quote (RFQ), started today for the engineering study with a walk through at the dock. Mr. Pescosolido reported there was a good turnout, which included members of the Southern New England Fishermen and Lobstermen's Association. Ms. Chesebrough stated that after submissions a panel will convene to rate and rank. Mr. Guzzo agreed to represent the Waterfront Commission on the review panel. The next step would be to ask for different options from the accepted proposals. The Grant writer for the Town will be pursuing grants for additional work needed. The current timeline is Fall 2023 for the final study and start of work; July 2025 is the deadline for completion.

Mrs. Packer informed the Commission that the 2024-2025 Departmental budget for the Waterfront Commission has been submitted.

There being no further business to become before the Commission, Mr. Pfeifer made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Pryke-Fairchild seconded the motion, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink, one to the left and one to the right of the text 'Respectfully submitted,'.

lp