

Cove Commission meeting notes

Date- 3/5/2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Richard Friend (Chair), Christopher Pearson (Vice-Chair), Bob Laforge, Barbara Brusini, and Nicole Rainville.

Commissioners Absent: Tony Jones and Scott Tagen.

Others Present: Edward Tamboe

Staff Present: Lea Anthony Hitchen, Assistant Town Planner

Introductions:

Mr. Friend welcomed Ms. Rainville to her first Cove Commission meeting and members introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Laforge to approve the December 4, 2013 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Pearson.

Approved 4-0.

Public Comment:

Mr. Edward Tamboe, of Foster, who has had mooring #146 for the last 18 years, informed the Commission that he attempted to convert his residential (non-residential) mooring into a commercial mooring at the Parks & Recreation Department. According to Mr. Tamboe, the Parks & Rec. staff indicated that he would have to give up his residential mooring in order to get on the commercial mooring waiting list. Both Mr. Tamboe and the Commission did not seem to think this made any sense, as it would seem more appropriate that he would have to give up his residential mooring when a commercial mooring was available but not while he was on the waiting list. Mr. Friend offered to talk to the Parks and Recreation Department about the situation and get back to Mr. Tamboe.

Harbormaster Report:

Mr. Cullen was not present – no Harbormaster report.

Review of Ordinances Chapter 34, Article II Cove Management Commission and Chapter 128 Harbor Management:

Mr. Friend advised the members that he met with Scott Leigh (Scott's Boat Service) and reviewed the mooring tackle specifications; the current problem is there are no standards for inspection which makes inspections problematic. In order to use some degradation standard Mr. Leigh had suggested following the ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) which sets a 16 percent loss inspection diameter.

The Commissioners discussed in detail the percentage of reduction to the tackle before it should be replaced. They decided to have Mr. Friend draft revisions and it could be reviewed with the Harbormaster present as well as with other local mooring inspectors (i.e RI Mooring Service).

(Ms. Rainville left the meeting.)

GBSA Letter:

Ms. Hitchen informed the Commission that CRMC and RIDEM approved the addition of the Town's (Mr. Cullen's letter dated January 28, 2014) request for GBSA's expansion for four moorings in Greenwich Cove with the caveat that the boats be J24 sailboats without MSDs into the town's mooring field; this will increase the capacity to 114.

Ms. Hitchen stated she would inform Mr. Dave Wehr, the President of the GBSA. She reminded the Commission that there was prior conversation that the four moorings would be considered "nonprofit/education" classified as currently the Town only has residential, nonresidential, commercial and recreational. Furthermore, the Commission would have to determine the cost per mooring; previously there was discussion to charge \$225 per mooring.

Motion by Mr. Laforge to classify the four new moorings "Educational/Non-profit" and access a \$225 fee per mooring. Seconded by Mr. Pearson. Approved 4 – 0.

General Maintenance of Town Boat Ramp and Dock Area:

Ms. Hitchen verified the Commission received the forwarded email from the DPW Director regarding the estimated cost replacement for the old town dock. The Commission members confirmed the email was received and felt as though the estimated cost for replacement was extremely high at over \$40,000. Their overall opinion was to put the old town dock issue on hold for now as they could most likely get a few more years out of the old town dock by continuing to make small repairs and instead focus on dredging the Cove.

Mr. Friend was prepared to draft a letter to the Town Council, as he had already discussed with the Town Manager, requesting approximately \$25,000, for dredging purposes. He would send the draft letter to the Commission members before submitting it to the Town Manager/Town Council.

(Mr. Pearson left the meeting at 5:50)

Commissioners' Roundtable:

No comments.

Next Meeting Agenda:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 2th at 4:30. Agenda items include the approval of minutes, harbormaster report, mooring issues, ROW discussions, dredging letter, and ordinance update.

Motion by Mr. Laforge to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Brusini. Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.