

Cove Commission meeting notes

Date- 4/2/2014 at 4:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Richard Friend (Chair), Christopher Pearson (Vice-Chair), Barbara Brusini, and Scott Tagen.

Commissioners Absent: Bob Laforge, Nicole Rainville, and Tony Jones.

Staff Present: Lea Anthony Hitchen, Assistant Town Planner

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Pearson to approve the April 2, 2014 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Tagen.

Approved 4-0.

2014 Mooring Renewals:

Staff reviewed the 2014 Mooring Renewal list with the Commissioners noting the third and fourth mooring holders on the list have since provided their missing information to the Director of Parks & Recreation and have been removed. The Commissioners acknowledged the first person on the list is currently out of state and should be returning on April 3rd; they recommended an extension be granted to April 11th in order to submit the necessary paperwork. The second mooring holder has not recognized any paperwork or correspondence from the Recreation Department – it is assumed this mooring holder is “giving up” their mooring – the Commission unanimously granted approval to revoke John Comer’s mooring.

GBSA Correspondence

Staff informed the Commission she contacted Dave Wehr from the GBSA asking of his intentions for the upcoming boating season as the Town requested and was approved by both DEM and CRMC the addition of four J24 nonpowered sailboats with no MSDs. He explained to her that the GBSA successfully raised the funds to purchase 4 J22’s which is similar to the J24 – as mentioned before, the GBSA the best location were pursuing moorings with the city of Warwick at the same time since the cove is split between the two towns. As of late last fall, the Warwick harbormaster would be able to accommodate the GBSA with 4 moorings as well. The issue then becomes the proposed locations of the moorings. The best location for their purposes would be as close to their facility (base of Division St) as possible so that users of the boats would have a shorter distance to sail to access the bay and a shorter ride on the launch. Mr. Wehr wanted to discuss the location of where the moorings would be located so that he can make a final determination on the moorings for this season.

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 disclosed he did not have too much time over the last month to work on updating the ordinances.

Commissioners' Roundtable:

Mr. Pearson commented that Newport recently updated their mooring ordinance; there is no longer the 3:1 ratio.

Ms. Brusini noted the URI Watershed Watch starts again next month.

Ms. Hitchen informed the Commission there is an Earth Day spring cleanup along the waterfront on Saturday, April 26th.

Next Meeting Agenda:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 7th at 4:30. Agenda items include the approval of minutes, harbormaster report, mooring issues, ROW discussions, dredging letter, and ordinance update.

Motion by Mr. Pearson to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Brusini. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.