

Cove Commission meeting notes

Date- 5/6/2014 at 4:30 p.m.

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

Commissioners Absent: Nicole Rainville.

Staff Present: Lea Anthony Hitchen, Assistant Town Planner and Jim Cullen, Harbormaster.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Approved 4-0.

Harbormaster Report:

Mr. Cullen informed the Commission that the Fire Department has not yet recommissioned the patrol boat. He is still waiting for a letter from the Federal Government in order to release the patrol boat in order to put it up for sale. Mr. Friend suggested actually writing the letter and asking the government for their signature.

Moorings

The Harbormaster indicated that five people relinquished their moorings; two new people have already contacted him for mooring placement and he will have to reposition his mooring since he bought a new boat over the winter.

GBSA

Mr. Cullen noted he had been in contact with the GBSA who decided to put their moorings all in Warwick considering it was a cheaper option and the moorings would be closer to their home base.

Other Issues

Ms. Hitchen added that on May 12th is the first reading for the No Parking/Tow Zone Ordinance at the King Street ROW with the Town Council.

General Maintenance of the Town Boat Ramp & Town Dock Area

Mr. Friend noted that it appears there is new pressure treated wood boards on the old docks and he has fixed the dinghy racks himself with his own screws and driver.

The Commissioners need to research whether any EPA and/or RIDEM, etc. grants are available to put towards the dredging of the Cove.

The issue of the “hole” was raised by Mr. Laforge and whether or not the DPW had ever filled it at the end of the boating season last year. Ms. Hitchen confirmed that she would contact Mr. Duarte and inquire if his crew could add a minimum size of 4” stone to the area which is the whole width of the ramp and approximately a few feet deep, preferably before the boating season begins.

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

The Commissioners will discuss this topic in detail at next month’s meeting. They feel strongly that guidelines need to be in place specifically for tackle size.

Commissioners’ Roundtable:

Mr. Tagen reiterated that for a Sea Scouts project it would be a great idea to install two signs on both sides of a ROW demarcating the access area. He asked Ms. Brusini to resend the CRMC “Adopt an Access Point.”

Mr. Friend inquired with the happenings of Harbourside. Ms. Hitchen noted that Mr. Finn met with Town Staff a couple of weeks ago to increase the outdoor patio area as well as the stage area which would necessitate an increase in parking spaces. Mr. Finn is in the process of performing site survey work and will most likely need zoning relief; at this time there are so specific plans to present to the Commission.

Next Meeting Agenda:

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

Motion by Mr. Laforge to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tagen. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.