

Cove Commission meeting notes

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

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

Commissioners Absent: Nicole Rainville.

Others Present: Sarah Lincoln of 25 Water Street.

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

Ms. Lincoln informed the Commission that landscaping and construction has been going on at the King Street right-of-way. She requested the Commission to find out what Mr. Marinosci is doing and inquire if CRMC is aware of the activity. Staff summarized the last dealings with Mr. Marinosci, noted there was some recent DPW sewer work being done and stated she would inquire about the situation.

Ms. Hitchen also reminded the Commission that the 2nd reading/public hearing for the no parking/tow zone at the King Street ROW will be heard at the June 9th Town Council meeting.

(Ms. Lincoln left the meeting.)

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mr. Laforge to approve the May 6, 2014 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Pearson.

Approved 4-0.

Harbormaster Report:

Mr. Cullen informed the Commission that this past Sunday, June 1st was the first busy day of the boating season and there was one tow. He still does not have federal approval from Homeland Security to sell/release the harbormaster boat; at this point he plans to draft a letter for the Town Manager to sign in order for FEMA to sign.

Moorings

The Harbormaster indicated all moorings are up to date. He informed the Commission there is a derelict boat tied to the old town dock which has been there for a couple of weeks but is pretty sure of the ownership.

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

Mr. Friend had not been able to review and edit the ordinances as planned although he and the other Commissioners feel strongly updating the ordinances are extremely important and will be on the next agenda.

General Maintenance of the Town Boat Ramp & Town Dock Area

The “hole” at the end of the town boat ramp has not been filled in yet; the Harbormaster suggested filling it. The Commission members also thought it would be in the best interest of the Town to proceed with filling it. Mr. Cullen noted that there have been several occasions where he has had to call a tow truck in order to haul out a vehicle.

Mr. Cullen recommended 4” stone be used to fill the hole so it will not be blown out and is a cheap fix. The most often time this situation occurs is moon low tide. He believes one truck load of stone is sufficient. Mr. Cullen knew of a place in Providence where the Town could get cobblestones for free to fill the hole; he suggested the DPW contact him if that was something the Town wanted to pursue.

Chairman’s Draft Letter Re: Dredging Cove

Mr. Friend noted he will revise the letter and send to all Commissioners for comment.

Mr. Cullen suggested finding out the details of Goddard Parks dredging plan.

Commissioners’ Roundtable:

After some initial activity and town staff meeting with the owner s of Finn’s Harborside Ms. Hitchen commented that the owner has decided against any expansion/alteration etc. of the outdoor area and will be keeping it as is other than updating some electrical work.

Staff reported the owner of Harborside is leasing an area to East Coast Paddleboards and Kayaks during the weekends. The Town has had to contact the owner regarding the sign not meeting the sign ordinance. Mr. Cullen indicated he too has already talked to the owner about safety and has encouraged the paddleboarders and kayakers to remain in the Cove, specifically in the south Cove.

No activity at the Harris Marina.

There was word that the concrete blocks located at the Long Street ROW will soon be removed and a gate installed for limited use.

Next Meeting Agenda:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 12th at 4:30. Agenda items include the approval of minutes, harbormaster report, mooring issues, and ordinance update.

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