

Cove Commission meeting notes

Date- 2/4/2015 at 4:30 p.m.

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

Commissioners Absent: Kenneth Powell

Staff Present: Lea Anthony Hitchen, Assistant Town Planner.

Introductions:

The Commission welcomed new member Ms. Bethany Warburton to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Ms. Rainville to approve the December 3, 2014 minutes. Seconded by Mr. Pearson.

Approved 5-0.

REPORTS:

Harbormaster Report:

No Harbormaster Report as Mr. Cullen is not present.

Mooring Issues:

No Mooring Issues.

Right of Way Discussion:

Ms. Hitchen initiated conversation about Town Council Stone's idea of implementing a boardwalk along the waterfront, specifically along Scalloptown Park. The Commission asked Staff to invite Mr. Stone to the next Commission meeting for further discussion.

Mr. Pearson had numerous questions regarding the right-of-ways he simply wanted answers to, such as what are the goals of the right-of-ways. Specific to the King Street ROW, Mr. Pearson questioned where is it located and who shovels it during the winter and why can't he get answers to these simple questions. He felt the Town Solicitor should be more involved.

Mooring Tackle Draft Ordinance:

Mr. Friend passed out draft inspection standards. He revised Section 5(B) to read: Each and every part of both the top and bottom chain shall be not less than 70 percent of the new size as specified in the table (with modified table).

Commissioners' Roundtable:

Ms. Hitchen informed the Commission about House Bill 5257 which would steer mooring revenue away from municipalities and give it to the State instead. Staff noted East Greenwich would lose \$28,000 annually if this bill were to pass. The Commissioners did not understand the reasoning behind the mooring fee schedule; additionally nothing made any sense about the bill.

The Commission unanimously agreed to oppose H-5257.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 4th at 4:30.

Motion by Ms. Brusini to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Pearson. Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.