



O C E A N A C C E S S C O M M I T T E E M I N U T E S

Wednesday, March 9th, 2016

6:00 PM – 8:00 P.M.

Council Chambers

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:07 P.M.

Present: Hank Adams, Penny Asherman, Maureen Connolly, Lew Incze, Ingrid Parkin, Steven Thomas, Josh Ottow

Town Staff: Town Manager Bill Shane, Recording Secretary Annemarie Dawson

Absent: Jessica Joyce, Sandra Gorsuch-Plummer, Brent Sullivan, Councilor Tom Gruber, Councilor George Turner

I. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The committee voted unanimously for Maureen Connolly as Chair and Joshua Ottow as Vice-Chair

Vote: 4-0 Unanimous

II. Approval of Minutes, January 13th, 2016

The meeting minutes were approved by Maureen Connolly, seconded by Steven Thomas

III. Update on New Floats

Bill updated the committee members on the Float Bids. Four bids were submitted and Float Services came in the lowest. Bill stated he had worked with them before and they are a reputable company. The committee was in agreement.

Conversation ensued in regards to the floats, and Lew Incze said that public showed positive interest in the floats and they would be well used. There is some concern with the committee about non-residents and the use of the floats. Stephen Thomas suggested using locks on the oars. Lew stated that parking will be a challenge and shared that Falmouth also has parking challenges. Bill commented on the parking issues and said we could possibly issue 20 parking spots per year but it would be hard to keep track of. Bill suggested we play it by ear and monitor it closely this spring/summer.

IV. Update on State Funding for Pier

Bill reported on Coveside and parking being an issue. The Council voted on allowing non-residents but the Finance Committee would like the Ocean Access Committee and the Coastal Water's Committee input. Bill explained to the committee that the Grant would be rescinded if we have parking restrictions to the public. The Coastal Water Committee had voted not to restrict public parking but limit public parking. Discussion ensued in regards to an agreement with Chebeague Island Transportation. Penny asked if we could restrict non-resident parking. Bill said we could think about using a car sticker program.

Bill asked the committee if we should vote on a Council Action for residents vs. nonresidents.

V. Update on Sign Grant:

Penny Asherman updated the committee on the sign for the area. They are waiting for the grant monies and then they will begin the sign with the designer. Penny and Ingrid are working together on the content for the sign. Lew Incze asked to see an example of the sign. Per Ingrid it will be a 2 foot by 3 foot sign with black metal posts.

There is a possibility of a grant opportunity with "Casco Bay Estuary Partnership," for a Horseshoe Crab Event. Penny will fill out the grant paperwork and Ingrid offered to help.

VI. Future Meetings with CCLT & Parking Plan Post VP Study

The Vernal Pool Study will be sometime in April. Bill stated we will need to reconfigure in by April 15th for the Broadcove study and we will need approval by the Land Trust.

Josh Ottow asked about studying Vernal Pools without snow. Bill said that we should be having a very wet spring and we are predicted to have an extremely wet April. Bill said we will have Vernal Pools on the agenda for April or May.

Bill stated that parking on the road may not be an option as the developer may not like it and we should focus on parking in the lot, not the open field. Josh said we need to have it accessible to children and families. He feels our priority should be making it family accessible and possibly making it one hour parking. Bill said we will have a golf cart available to assist with visitors and there will be more to come on this topic at future meeting.

VII. Other Business – Next Meeting Date

Maureen Connolly is concerned about dogs running free on the beach and asked what we should do about the dog issues. Penny and Ingrid said we should have signs at the gate. Bill will see about temporary signs posted as soon as possible.

Maureen brought up rules in regards to drones being used at the beach. Bill said that there are many rules and regulations with the FAA and that would be a future topic.

Bill Shane stated that we would need to have Thomas Bennett back to discuss the archeological site with the committee in May or June. Thomas has not received any feedback for student

participation in excavating the site from Greely High School nor University of Southern Maine interest. The town has received one grant for the dig.

On March 23rd Bill and Kevin Ryan from Forest Bell will be inspecting the shoreline for the Broadcove Invasive Species study which can be expected to be a three year study. Bill said he is unsure how this will work with the Land Trust but will be reporting back after the initial meet.

The committee agreed that the next meeting would be on May 11th, 2016.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Annemarie Dawson, Recording Secretary