

**Minutes of the Meeting  
of the  
Board of Commissioners  
of the  
Fishers Island Ferry District**

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District was held in the Fishers Island Community Center on **Tuesday, February 2, 2010** at 4:30 PM.

Present were Commissioners: Brooks, Burnham, duPont and Edwards.  
13 members of the community also attended.

Minutes of the meeting held on January 26, 2010 were discussed by the Board. After discussion and amendments the minutes were MOVED by Burnham, SECONDED by Brooks, AYES duPont and Edwards.

No bills needed to be paid.

**Correspondence**

1. Commissioner Brooks and Asst Mgr. Schmid will attend the senior luncheon on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. ID card photos will also be taken.
2. The Board approved accepting NY State Senior ID cards as proof of residency. The ID cutoff date of June 1<sup>st</sup> will be waived if necessary.
3. A request by the East End Lighthouse Committee for free transportation on the ferry was denied by the Board.

**Old Business**

1. Year round pass ID's will start to be distributed next week. The Board approved the final applicant list, the application and the dates of the photo sessions.
2. Billing for the new freight system will begin this week. The freight list will be updated with consistent pricing and distributed to the Board.
3. Commissioner duPont gave a MU dry dock update. One of the transmissions needed to be rebuilt. Edwards asked if the job was under budget and was told that it was. Captain Easter has done a good job of having the job completed in the most cost effective manner possible.
4. Rental properties and leases were tabled. The Ad Hoc committee will review.
5. COLA raises were again discussed. The Board, as requested, was provided with a summary of the expected payroll for the year 2010. The proposed 2% increase was included in the proposal and shown to be under the budgeted line item.
6. The Board discussed the upcoming peak season and rates. No final decisions were made and the discussion was tabled.

7. Commissioner Edwards reported that the Christmas boats were well used. It was suggested moving the boats ahead by an hour each. It was also suggested that the crews should be allowed to work different shifts, without working the entire day.
8. Airport rate schedules were distributed to the Board.
9. Processing fees for various credit cards companies were found to be very close in comparison. The Board requested that the current processor reduce or eliminate the batch rate fees.

### **New Business**

1. An annual maintenance plan from Star Computer was tabled until a later meeting.
2. A resolution setting the time and place of all notice postings for District meetings was: MOVED by Brooks, SECONDED by Edwards, AYES; Burnham and duPont. The resolution is a part of these minutes.
3. A Budget Modification to the 2009 budget was: MOVED by Edwards, SECONDED by duPont, AYES; Burnham and Brooks. Edwards would like to see a copy of the uniform contract.
4. Commissioner Edwards asked about the status of the District backhoe and was told that all of the product information had been sent to Pete Harris. However, since the District finished the 2009 budget with a \$160,000 surplus and additional finances were not needed to pay the December bills, no follow up phone calls were made.

### **Public Comment**

1. Deb Shillo stated that the Ad Hoc Committee and the Board seem to be working well together and complimented the Board for paying close attention to the numbers.
2. Paul Giles suggested that the additional \$100,000 added to the taxes at the end of 2009, be applied directly to the short term debt. Commissioner duPont explained that the debt rate was only 1% and should be paid down on schedule.
3. John Morgan, crew member, stated that crew morale was very low. The crew has been asked to cut back on their hours because the District was losing money and as it turns out there was a surplus of over \$160,000 for the year. Also the benefits have been cut back dramatically and the new health insurance plan is nothing like the previous plan. He was told that the insurance rates increased, therefore the District needed to find another plan. He was also told that not one employee lost their job, which was a credit to Captain Easter's scheduling skills.
4. Sara McLean stated that all of the Districts on the island are being hit with large insurance increases and must take measures to control costs.

Next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, February 18, 2010 at 2:00 PM at the Fishers Island Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Thomas F. Doherty  
Manager/Secretary

