

**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 at the New London Ferry Terminal on **Monday, October 4, 2010** at 1:30 PM.

Present were Commissioners Brooks, Burnham, duPont, Edwards, Rafferty, one member of the public and ten members of the crew.

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, September 21, 2010 were reviewed and accepted, with a request by Commissioner Rafferty that all resolutions be attached to on-line minutes.

Moved by Commissioner duPont,

Seconded by Commissioner Burnham;

Ayes all.

A listing of the outstanding obligations of the District was distributed to the Board for audit and discussion. At the conclusion of the discussion, a resolution to pay the outstanding obligations of: **\$56,963.84** as represented by vouchers **#1071 through #1099**, dated, October 5, 2010 was;

Moved by Commissioner Rafferty,

Seconded by Commissioner Edwards;

Ayes: All

**Correspondence**

- a. Request for a year round pass by Louis Frank was approved. In his absence, Commissioner Edwards vouched for him stating that Mr. Frank was not notified that he had to attend a meeting to get the card. There was some discussion as to the availability and notification process connected with the ID applications and that the Board needs to be consistent in enforcing whatever policy is agreed upon. The Board requested that the ID card requirements, parking policy, financials, late arrival, driverless car policies and any other pertinent consumer information be posted on the website. Mr. Doherty and Captain Easter will submit the current policies to the Board for review.
- b. A letter from Gary Streimer, a magnet school parent, was submitted questioning the magnet student identification card and New London Terminal parking lot usage policies. After discussion, the Board agreed to continue the current policies and a letter will be sent to Mr. Streimer thanking him and stating same.

**Old Business**

- a. Excise Tax Update- Commissioner Brooks reported no new information has been received from Attorney Knoblock to date.
- b. Leases- Appraisal Report: Nina Schmid reported Bob Silverstein was on the

Island Wednesday, September 29, 2010 to do the appraisals. Mr. Doherty and Commissioner Rafferty accompanied him. Nina Schmid will find out when the appraisal report will be complete.

- c. Paving Update- No charters have been scheduled by Corrazini. The Board inquired if Cross Sound Ferry has been notified to not remove any of Corrazini's equipment from Fishers Island unless they check with the District first to see if the balance of touch fees have been paid. Ms. Schmid said she would ask Mr. Doherty if that has occurred. Captain Easter indicated that he is in very close touch with Cross Sound and can pass that information along. The Board also requested that Mr. Doherty get in touch with Town Attorney Finnegan for an update.
- d. 2009 Financial Audit Report – The report was distributed to the Board. There was some recollection that Doherty, Beals and Banks would present the report. Ms. Schmid was asked to contact them and invite them to the November 2 meeting.

### **New Business**

- a. Seasonal Termination – Theater Personnel – Resolved that Karla Heath and Michael Conroy be removed as part-time seasonal help at the Fishers Island Movie Theater effective October 1, 2010.  
Moved by Commissioner Brooks;  
Seconded by Commissioner Edwards.  
All Ayes.

### **Public/Crew Comment Session -2:15 pm**

Commissioner Brooks opened the session by inviting the crew to ask questions and make any suggestions they may have. He asked the ticket agents' opinions on the process of switching from ticketing to reservations computers. Rick Barrett responded that it can be done on the same computer, it just takes time to switch programs, and, with customers in line, he prefers to use the other computer. Commissioner Brooks would like to have Advantech review the procedure.

Captain John Morgan suggested that the resident ID card be changed to "Discount ID Card". This might eliminate island residents being offended when asked to show it and create more incentive for passengers to carry them

There was also a discussion about the driverless car policy. There are grey areas that need to be refined on both the NL and FI sides, such as resident off-peak fares for driverless cars and when a driverless charge applies in NL.

Commissioner Brooks also asked for suggestions on vehicle and pedestrian traffic control on FI. All present concurred the presence of the State Trooper is a huge help when it is consistent. Commissioner Edwards requested that a copy of the traffic study that was done some years ago be obtained for review by the Board for future planning purposes.

Captain Jesse Marshall inquired if the 4% that has been budgeted for COLA raises for full-time employees will be granted next year and what index the Town of Southold uses? He stated that the stipend was appreciated this year, but employees look for an actual COLA increase to add to their overall retirement. Commissioner Brooks indicated it was the intention of the Board to grant the budgeted 3%, but if extenuating financial conditions occur, the increase may be revoked or adjusted. It was noted that the index used to determine COLA increases needed to be agreed upon at the beginning of the COLA discussion. He also noted the District was able to regain covered vision examinations under the new medical insurance. The crew acknowledged that the new plan does appear to be better than the previous year's and thanked the District.

Marshall asked if there is any chance for an increase in overtime. There was a discussion as to some full-time employees not reaching 80 hours and if so, they are to speak with Captain Easter to rectify that. Captain Easter indicated he was under a mandate from the Commissioners to only schedule overtime when absolutely necessary. In some cases, overtime occurs due to extenuating circumstances, such as weather, high volume, etc.

Commissioner Rafferty explained to the crew that Captain Easter was directed to keep payroll costs down and he has done a good job doing so. He also explained the financial reasons the mandate was issued.

Commissioner Edwards asked for two volunteers to assist him in the research for new crew uniforms for next year. Ray Lefevre and John Morgan volunteered.

Commissioner Brooks asked for ideas to increase revenue and asked Commissioner Burnham if he would be the Board representative. Jesse Marshall volunteered. One idea was to charge residents for off-peak driverless cars. Ms. Schmid mentioned Cross Sound Ferry has a preferred privileges card people pay for in order to obtain special services; in our case, that might be "first on, first off", staying outside, etc. Captain Morgan suggested that if funds were to be raised for a new ferry, a bidding opportunity for donors to have the boat named after them could produce revenue. There was some discussion as to creating a committee when the time comes to look into new ferries.

Both committees have a December 1, 2010 report date.

The Board entered in to **Executive Session** for personnel reasons at 3:06 pm and exited at 4:20 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 19, 2010, 5pm, Fishers Island Community Center.

