

**Fishers Island Ferry District**

**MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS**

**January 24, 2012, 4:30PM**

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A meeting of the Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District was held on January 24, 2012 at the Fishers Island Community, pursuant to notice duly provided to the public. Present at the meeting were Commissioners Brooks, Edwards, Burnham and Rafferty. Attending by telephone was Commissioner Herrick, Interim CEO Randy Wyrofsky and Nick Daukas, Human Resources consultant to the Commission. Present also at the meeting were several members of the public.

There being a quorum present, Chairman Brooks called the meeting to order at 4:35PM.

Mr. Brooks stipulated that the agenda item that called for review of minutes of prior meetings would be deferred to the next subsequent meeting of the Commission. Commissioner Edwards mentioned that Catherine Edwards had circulated, this past week, minutes of the prior two meetings. Chairman Brooks asked the Commissioners to review these minutes separately and that these minutes would be placed on the agenda for review and approval at the next Commission meeting.

Chairman Brooks next raised the topic of warrant approval, and read a short list of warrants aggregating \$20,694.79. After discussion, and on motion made and seconded, the warrants were approved by the unanimous vote of Commissioners present.

Chairman Brooks indicated that the next agenda item was consideration of third party correspondence. The Commission had received no written statements, but did receive a verbal inquiry from Keith Tirabassi concerning a possible rental of a portion of the property currently rented to Island Fuels near the Airport. After discussion, Chairman Brooks asked Mr. Wyrofsky to communicate with Mr. Tirabassi concerning a possible rental arrangement, and with Island Fuels concerning their concurrence.

The next agenda item was a discussion of the search for a permanent CEO. Chairman Brooks asked Mr. Daukas to provide a report. Mr. Daukas provided a brief summary of the progress of the search and outlined specific steps that needed to be taken during the ensuing week, including interviews with prospective candidates. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Edwards asked that the Commission address the issue of Harold Cook's request for accommodation on the ferry for his wife, who is handicapped. Mr. Wyrofsky had prepared a draft policy and sent it to Commissioner Rafferty for evaluation earlier in the day. Messrs. Rafferty and Wyrofsky agreed to finalize the draft and circulate it to the other commissioners for evaluation and approval at the next ensuing meeting of the Commissioners. The Commissioners expressed a consensus that handicapped persons had to consist of those passenger who were insufficiently ambulatory to reach the passenger cabin, and that any such passengers should approach management to make arrangements individually in each case. In the interim, the Commissioners instructed Mr. Wyrofsky to communicate with Mr. Cook and make appropriate arrangements to ensure comfortable and cost effective transportation to Mrs. Cook.

Chairman Brooks announced that the next topic for discussion was the retention of Gordon Murphy as an independent contractor to fill the position of Assistant Manager on an interim basis. After discussion, and on motion made by Commissioner Rafferty, seconded by Commissioner Brooks, and approved by the unanimous vote of the Commissioners present, the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLVED, that Gordon Murphy be and is hereby retained as an independent contractor to serve in the position of Assistant Manager of the District on an interim basis at an hourly rate of {Randy – please break down and equate to \$60K}; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that Mr. Wyrofsky be and is hereby authorized and instructed to finalize and enter into, by and on behalf of the District, an independent contractor agreement between the District and Mr. Murphy, setting forth the job description, hourly rate, and other details of the contractor relationship.

Mr. Rafferty offered to review the Edwards independent contractor contract and adapt it for use by Mr. Wyrofsky in connection with the Interim Assistant Manager position. Mr. Murphy is expected to commence work on Wednesday, January 25, 2012.

Chairman Brooks next called for comments by members of the public. Mr. Brooks first recognized Deb Shillo who raised several points: (i) What plans does the Commission have for renewal of the dental plan when the current plan expires in March; (ii) When does the summer schedule go to print and what changes/additional boats are planned relative to winter schedule or last summer; (iii) what new plans is the District making for handling of freight; and (iv) What is the District strategy to publicize the availability of its rental properties so that the District can maximize tenancy and rents. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Herrick agreed to evaluate the shoulder and summer schedules to determine if the schedule could be adjusted to better coordinate with trains arriving and departing from New London in both directions, New York and Boston.

There being no further comment from the public, and motion made by Commissioner Edwards and seconded by Commissioner Burnham, at 5:15PM the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session to consider legal and employee matters.

The Commissioner exited Executive Session at 5:59PM.

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made, seconded, and approved by the unanimous vote of the Commissioners present, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Chris Rafferty, Secretary of the Meeting