

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
April 1, 2013

A Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the District) was called to order on April 1, 2013 at 4:31pm by Commissioner Edwards at the Fishers Island Community Center.

Present were Commissioners Edwards, Rafferty, Rugg and Wall. Also present were Manager Donald Lamb, Assistant Manager Gordon Murphy, and four members of the public.

Commissioner Edwards opened the meeting at 4:31pm, and asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance and declared a quorum present.

Public Comments:

Art Walsh asked if there was some way to get a reservation on the 'next boat' if you were in line and did not get on the previous boat. Some way of getting a 15-20 minute window to get a reservation. This would be a same day reservation. Management will investigate.

Deb Shillo presented a list of questions Management will discuss the questions off line/out side of meeting with Ms. Shillo.

Minutes:

Minutes of the meeting held on March 18, 2013 were reviewed and tabled.

Warrants:

A list of outstanding obligations of the District was received and discussed. All invoices were declared to abide by Procurement Policy. At the conclusion of the discussion, a resolution was made to pay the outstanding obligation totaling \$49,681.95.

MOVED by: Commissioner Wall

SECONDED by: Commissioner Rafferty

AYES: All

NAYES: None

Budget Modifications:

Management presents additional 2012 Budget line item modifications as there have been lines in excess the originally budgeted. It is expected that these adjustments will bring the Ferry District into alignment. A copy of the effected line items will be attached to the minutes (below).

RESOLVED that the Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amend the 2012 Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Increase Revenues

SM.5990.00	Appropriated Fund Balance	<u>\$ 5,113</u>
	Total	\$ 5,113

Increase Appropriations

SM.1420.4.000.000	Legal Fees and Fines	2,663
SM.5710.4.000.000	Ferry Operations, Other	400

SM.5712.4.000.000	Commissioner Fees	<u>2,050</u>
	Total	\$5,113

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RESOLVED that the Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amend the 2013 Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Decrease Appropriations

SM.5709.2.000.000	Repairs, Other	<u>12,300</u>
	Total	\$ 12,300

Increase Appropriations

SM.5709.2.000.200	Repairs Docks & Terminals	<u>12,300</u>
	Total	\$12,300

MOVED by: Commissioner Wall
 SECONDED by: Commissioner Rafferty
 AYES: All
 NAYES: None

Public Correspondence:

Three letters from the public were noted.

1. "Thank you to the Red Jacket boys on the Fishers Island Ferry" will be posted in the employee room.
2. Mr. J Brim: Questioned a commercial use freight fee for transporting supplies. Management will respond.
3. Ms L Finan: Requested window replacement in Annex Office so Shutters and Sales can use space all year. Windows will be repaired.

Commissioner Rugg thanked Management for improved crew communication and morale.

HR:

To clarify the March 18, 2013 resolution of Mr. Logan Glidewell. Mr. Glidewell resigned as a full-time deckhand and will continue to be work for the Ferry District as a part-time deckhand at his current salary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that to correct the resolution of March 18, 2013 and with effect March 11, 2013, Logan Glidewell is hereby released from his fulltime deckhand duties and remain with the Ferry District as a part-time deckhand.

MOVED by Commissioner Rugg
 SECONDED by Commissioner Wall
 Ayes: All
 Nays: None

Executive Session:

Entering Executive Session:

At 4:20 pm the following resolution was proposed:

The Board of Commissioners, RESOLVED, that the meeting be adjourned in to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing conducting negotiations with the CSEA.

Proposed by Commissioner Rugg

Seconded by Commissioner Wall

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Exiting Executive Session:

At 5:53 pm the following resolution was proposed:

RESOLVED, that the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Proposed by Commissioner Wall

Seconded by Commissioner Edwards

AYES: All

NAYS: None

Manager's Report:

Projects:

North Ramp:

- Deadman concrete foundation due to be poured April 2-4
- Ramp being constructed in Maine April 7 and will be delivered on or before April 15

M/V Race Point:

- Running 1st trip April 2, 9:00 am cement delivery and return
- Potential to do a lot of charter the next couple weeks
- 2 day sea trial before going into service

Airport:

- FEMA due April 8 or 9 for visit
- RFQ accepted for sand removal on runway #30
- RFQ to remove sand on runway #7
- Roads to Race Point are open
- Highway Department burn pile – waiting to see when road can be opened there

Other:

Dental and Life Insurance Plan Provider Changes

At Commissioners' recommendation this will be shared by Management with the District employees and resolved at the April 15 BOC Meeting. Management's current recommendation: Lincoln is preferred. If District stayed with current providers, costs would go up 5%.

Grasslands Management Agreement:

- This includes the Airport and Parade Grounds
- Fishers Island Conservancy has taken over this contract at a huge benefit to the District
- Budget for airport grounds maintenance is \$10,000 annually. Conservancy is managing within budget and providing much greater service and outcome.
- Recommend that the GMP be an exhibit to the minute without the pictures.

Commissioner Rugg commented the bird count on the Parade Grounds property where the Conservancy (and Habitat Committee) work has been done is 400 per acre compared with Middle Farms Pond at 0 per acre where burns have happened but no grasslands work. Edwards added it have been a win-win for the whole island.

Approved by Commissioners to have Management continue to oversee the project.

Commissioner Rafferty requested this be done in compliance with procedures. Assistant Manager Murphy confirmed this is all in compliance.

Manager Lamb commented Assistant Manager Murphy has done a great job managing this and it is not only beneficial to the District, but to the community at large and is being done in compliance with procurement policy.

HR:

MS. Polly Ford received her evaluation from Asst. Manager - Operations Burns and Marine Ops. Supervisor Burke and it is recommended Ms. Ford receive a 6-month review pay raise to align with the appropriate position salary at \$15/hour.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED to approve that Polly Ford will receive a pay raise to bring her salary to \$15/hour effective in the next payroll cycle.

MOVED by Commissioner Rugg
SECONDED by Commissioner Wall
Ayes: All
Nays: None

Conversation ensued on ferry properties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that effective May 15-July 1, 2013, allow Lighthouse Works , Inc. to use 357 *Whistler Avenue* until their house, which is under construction is completed. Lighthouse Works will enter into a lease with Race Rock as guarantor subject to the normal terms and conditions.

MOVED by Commissioner Rafferty
SECONDED by Commissioner Rugg
Ayes: All
Nays: None

Committees:

Finance:

Commissioner Rugg reported audit is being organized and hasn't really started yet. Asst. Manager Murphy and Jobina Miller are trying to get 2012 books closed.

The District has a Fundamental Disaster Recovery Plan. It is a work in progress but due to timing for the peak season it will be delayed until the Fall.

Yale study is looking at restructuring Ferry District managed properties – they are putting together a drawing which we will take a look at.

Charter, freight and commercial rates are under review - pretty much where they need to be and Gordon and Don will come back if they see an anomaly we need to correct.

Legal:

Commissioner Rafferty reported this committee is down to one member *but* - if anyone has any concerns, please contact Commissioner Rafferty.

Operations:

Nothing to report - 2013 schedule is complete

Commissioner Edwards suggested a Commissioner work session at 3:00 pm on April 15

Long Range Planning Committee will meet at 1:00 pm on April 15. Marine Ops.

Commissioner Rugg will check with Asst. Manager - Operations Burns on his thoughts on a passenger only boat.

Commissioners and Management will hold a work session in New London in April or May. Manager Lamb will find a date that works for Commissioners and crew.

Motion to adjourn 6:17 pm

Moved: Commissioner Wall

Second: Commissioner Rugg

Aye: All

Nays: None

The next scheduled meeting begins at 4:30 pm Monday, April 15, 2013 at the Fishers Island Community Center.

Exhibit A

***The Fishers Island Conservancy
2013 Ferry Grassland Management Plan***

The Fishers Island Ferry District is responsible for overseeing well more than a hundred acres of property on the West End of the island. That property includes the Airport and the Parade Ground as well as a large area along South Beach. This area comprises the largest contiguous grassland on Fishers. In common with the rest of the island these areas have been under assault by invasive shrubs and vines.

Over the past two years the Fishers Island Ferry District has made great strides in reclaiming the grasslands of the Airport area and the Parade Ground area. In so doing, the Ferry District has improved safety both at the Airport, by channeling Race Point traffic and improving runway visibility, and at the Parade Ground by limiting access. It has provided for systematic and cost-effective grassland maintenance by creating burn barriers and burn paths; and it provided for increased public use and enjoyment by enlarging the network of public paths. This has been a win/win for all island residents. And this has been accomplished at great cost savings to the Ferry District.

The Fishers Island Conservancy will oversee conduct and manage the continuing maintenance and preservation of the grasslands located at the Airport and the Parade Ground. This will carry on the successful efforts begun two years ago by the Habitat Committee, which is now a sub-committee of the Conservancy. The Conservancy will utilize the specialized skills of its membership in continuing the grassland management. The Conservancy has access to and will employ specialized flail mowing, discing and seeding machinery in carrying on this effort. The cost to the Ferry District will be capped to not exceed \$10,000.

The Following activities will be undertaken in 2013:

1. Prescribed burns by the Fishers Island Fire Department: See attached plans.
2. Heavy mowing after burn
3. Reseeding with Native Warm Season Grass (NWSG) and other natives
4. Path mowing as needed, estimate six passes
5. Old Airport Road scarifying and reseeded (seed will be supplied)
6. Locust infestation suppression at Red Zone and neighboring area
7. Grassland/native flower demonstration plots behind Trooper house and movie theater, Parade Ground extension through cherry thicket
8. Spot suppression of cherry, sumac, coastal olive seedlings using herbicide at Parade Ground and Airport.

The Conservancy is undertaking discussions with the Fishers Island Fire Department to continue and expand the Kudzu and knotweed elimination at the Bunker, south end of Parade Ground. This project will most likely occur under a grant from the Conservancy to the fire department, under Conservancy supervision.

The effect of saltwater incursion on the grasslands due to hurricane Sandy is the great unknown which will affect the management of the grasslands this year. Only time will tell the changes which will need to be made to our best intentions set out above. Red indicates 2013 burns.

Name of the project: Airport&Parade Burns 2012-13
Generated by Measure Map on Oct 25, 2012 11:49:19 PM

Area: 52.9 acres
Perimeter: 24,254 ft



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Airport & Parade Burns 2012-2013 – Generated by Measure Map 10/25/2012 – 52.9 acres, 24,254 ft.