

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
April 30, 2018

Commissioner Ahrens at the Fishers Island Community Center called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District ("the Ferry District") to order on April 30, 2018 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners William Bloethe and Dianna Shillo were present. Commissioners Heather Burnham and Peter Rugg were absent. RJ Burns was present via phone. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy, Diane Hansen and Deanna Ross. Members of the public present included Luke Fowler and Karl Eiriksson.

Commissioner Ahrens established that a quorum was present. Everyone in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

**Correspondence/Public Comment** – Mr. Cook reported that no correspondence was received.

Mr. Luke Fowler and Mr. Karl Eiriksson from Friends of the Fishers Island Theater, Inc. gave a brief history of the formation of the theater group and their efforts to help stabilize, renovate and get the theater back on its feet through fund raising. During this seven year period, the theater group realized the only way to save the theater would be to purchase the building and land from the Town of Southold. The Theater group has applied for 501(c)(3) status and is awaiting approval from the IRS. Mr. Fowler appealed to the District Board of Commissioners to sell the building and the land, as well as assist in absorbing the legal fees to do so. Mr. Fowler is supportive of any language in the agreement that would guarantee the return of the building and its land to the District in the event the theater group was unsuccessful. Mr. Fowler expressed that the theater group's sole intentions are for public use only and that they will continue to operate as a non-profit charitable organization. Discussion ensued regarding the amount of land in question and concerns for the demonstration gardens and current uses of the parking area. Chairman Ahrens expressed the BOC support of the theater group; however, stating the concern the BOC has with regard to setting a precedent as there has never been a sale of land that the FIFD manages and has been entrusted with. Commissioner Shillo responded that this is a unique situation in that it is dealing with an historical building with the sole purpose of public use. Mr. Fowler went on to further support his group's desire to own the land with the building by citing examples of current and past experiences with the Community Center and landlords. It was noted that subdivisions of the land are in process by TOS. Mr. Cook stated that the land in question would be what has already been delineated including the parking lot up to the street, 15 feet on the demonstration garden side of the building and 30 feet on the back of the building. Mr. Fowler expressed his desire to move forward and begin fundraising as soon as possible. Chairman Ahrens expressed his same desire and has assured Mr. Fowler that after all BOC members have been updated, the BOC will come to a final decision. Both parties thanked each other for this discussion.

**Minutes**

RESOLUTION 2018 - 063

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the March 5, 2018 meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

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Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 - 064

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the March 8, 2018 meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 - 065

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the March 19, 2018 meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2018 - 066

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated April 30, 2018, in the amount of \$70,908.00

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo  
Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Management Reports**

**Airport Roof Update** - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. The roof contract was put out for bid; however, was not published in a widely circulated publication. Mr. Cook stated that the RFP will be sent out again on the Fishers Island Website. In addition, management is seeking legal advice regarding prevailing wage.

**Airport Capital Improvement Projects** - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Three projects outlined in the 2018 ACIP include Airport-wide Obstruction Evaluation, Rehabilitate Electrical Building, and Airport Entrance Road Improvements. Discussion ensued regarding whose responsibility it is to front costs for large capital projects. Management will attempt to seek consulting advice regarding this issue. The BOC expressed agreement with the 2018 Airport Capital Improvement Projects.

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**Ship Radar** - Mr. Burns stated that new ship radar has been installed on both boats. Mr. Burns reported a minor learning curve on one of the operating systems that has been sorted out, and that the captains are pleased with the new equipment.

**Munnatawket/RP Update** - Mr. Burns informed the BOC that both boats are ready for their annual US Coast Guard Inspections. Munnatawket COI will take place on May 8, 2018 and Race Point COI will take place May 10, 2018. Mr. Burns continues to prepare Race Point's 2018 Yard Package with a target date of October 1, 2018. The sewage tank will need to be replaced during this yard package. Munnatawket is running fine. Active Shooter training took place on Friday, April 27, 2018. The Munnatawket was used as the platform for the training and included officers from the USCG and Connecticut State Police. Mr. Burns reported that the training was very successful. Damage Control Training will take place May 1, 2018. This training includes a trailer filled with water that simulates damage to a ship. The training will begin at 10am and include the boat crew along with some science students from Mrs. Giles class of the Fishers Island School. Ms. Adrien Broom will be using Munnatawket for a photo shoot on May 4, 2018. Summer staffing hires are well under way with all being internal recommendations. Chairman Ahrens asked if anyone from the Fishers Island Fire Department has been in touch with Mr. Burns regarding a fire drill on one of the boats. Mr. Burns responded that he has had two conversations with Captain Bruce Hubert and nothing has gone past the discussion phase. Chairman Ahrens will bring this to the Fire Department's attention at their upcoming meeting.

**New London Seafood** - Mr. Burns informed the BOC that there was a drop off of two totes last weekend that went very well. Fishing has been down due to the weather. The BOC has agreed to extend the trial through May 2018.

**Hovercraft** - Mr. Cook reported that the 2018 Hovercraft service is cancelled due to the owner selling the vessels to an Alaskan based tour operator. Management and the BOC will continue looking for alternatives for the future.

**Airport Hangar Update** - Mr. Cook sent an update to the BOC and is prepared to set a date for a public hearing. The BOC has agreed to set the public hearing for Tuesday, May 29, 2018.

**Property Management** - Mr. Cook shared a proposed drawing of a temporary structure from Mr. Craig Shultz. Mr. Shultz will present the new proposed structure to the TOS building inspector. The Scroxton's rental house will be vacant soon. Mr. Murphy and Chairman Ahrens will perform a walk through on Wednesday, May 2, 2018. No decision has been made regarding replacement tenants.

**Silver Eel Cove Dredging** - Mr. Cook informed the BOC that sampling will take place this week.

**Other** - Discussion ensued regarding the need to keep a ticket agent available in the winter months at the Fishers Island terminal and whether it is economical. Commissioner Shillo responded that if this is the case then the number of online reservations should be increased.

**Legal**

**Mosquito Hollow Roof Award**

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RESOLUTION 2018 – 067

Whereas management has received four quotes from island vendors; and

Whereas management recommends the acceptance of the proposal from Skyline Custom Carpentry, Inc. of Fishers Island, NY based on value and professional reputation.

Therefore it is RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the proposal from Skyline Custom Carpentry, Inc. in the amount of \$8,755 plus \$875 for additional equipment and supplies, the total amount not to exceed \$9,625 to remove the existing roof and install a replacement roof. It is further

RESOLVED to authorize management to execute all contracts and ancillary documents, subject to review by counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Ayes: A .Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**FedEX Express**

RESOLUTION 2018 – 068

The Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District RESOLVES to authorize Mr. Murphy to execute the Cartage Agent Transportation Agreement with Federal Express and any ancillary documents subject to review by counsel.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**C Edwards Settlement**

RESOLUTION 2018 - 069

WHEREAS, the District was presented with a claim by Catherine Edwards for the sum of \$1,251.62 as reimbursement for damage to her vehicle on December 13, 2017 caused by the error of District staff; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District has determined that it is in the best interests of the District to resolve this claim to avoid the expense and uncertainties of litigation; therefore be it

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RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District approves the settlement of this claim, and directs management to make payment of the settlement amount of \$1,251.62 subject to the approval of District counsel and the Southold Town Attorney.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo  
Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

The BOC has determined that no executive session is necessary and would like to commend Ms. Hansen on her hard work with the new CSEA contract.

**Budget**

RESOLUTION 2018 – 070

RESOLVED that the Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amend the 2018 Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Decrease Appropriations

SM5710.4.000.000	Ferry Operations/Other Miscellaneous	\$15,000
SM5710.4.400.100	Marine engineering	\$8,000
SM5710.4.000.200	Utilities-Fishers Island	\$1,000
	Total	\$24,000

Increase Appropriations

SM5610.2.000.000	Airport Capital Outlay	\$23,000
AM9770.7.000.000	RAN Debt Interest	\$1,000
	Total	\$24,000

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo  
Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**HR**

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RESOLUTION 2018 - 071

WHEREAS Dawson Millbauer and Timothy Hoch have resigned from their positions as Deckhand (FIFD) with the Fishers Island Ferry District effective April 30, 2018;

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners accepts the resignations of Mr. Millbauer and Mr. Hoch with effect April 30, 2018. Neither employee has paid time off accruals and no further payments are due to them.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo  
Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 – 072

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional Deckhands (FIFD);

Therefore it is RESOLVED to appoint, with effect May 10, 2018, Lee Nelson as a part-time Deckhand (FIFD) at a rate of \$12.50 per hour.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 – 073

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional full-time Clerks and Cashiers (FIFD) during the peak season between May 15, 2018, and September 16, 2018;

Therefore it is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 15, 2018 Hannah Peabody as a Clerk from part-time to full-time summer seasonal status. On September 15, 2018, Ms. Peabody will terminate her summer seasonal position and on September 16, 2018 be re-appointed to part-time Clerk.

It is further RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 15, 2018 Kathleen Alfred-Neiman and Karina Curbelo as Cashiers (FIFD) from part-time to full-time summer seasonal status. On September 15, 2018, Ms. Alfred-Nieman and Ms. Curbelo will terminate their summer seasonal position and on September 16, 2018 be re-appointed to part-time Cashier (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

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RESOLUTION 2018 – 074

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional full-time Pursers (FIFD) during the peak season between May 15, 2018, and September 16, 2018;

Therefore it is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 15, 2018 John Gural as Purser (FIFD) from part-time to full-time summer seasonal status. On September 15, 2018, Mr. Gural will terminate his summer seasonal position and on September 16, 2018 be re-appointed to a part-time Purser (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 – 075

WHEREAS the Ferry District requires additional full-time Deckhands (FIFD) during the peak season between May 15, 2018, and September 16, 2018;

Therefore it is RESOLVED to temporarily appoint with effect May 15, 2018 Christopher Bridgeman, Edward Bridgeman, Rodney Brown, Steven Conary, Peter Gilmore, Vince Haring, Sean Healy, Chase Lettrich, Ryan Miner, Leonard Ortiz, Robert Sasso and Nathan White as summer seasonal Deckhand (FIFD).

On September 15, 2018, Christopher Bridgeman, Edward Bridgeman, Rodney Brown, Steven Conary, Pete Gilmore, Vince Haring, Sean Healy, Chase Lettrich, Ryan Miner, Leonard Ortiz, Robert Sasso and Nathan White will terminate their summer seasonal positions and on September 16, 2018 be re-appointed to part-time Deckhand (FIFD).

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo

Nays: None

Resolution 2018 - 076

WHEREAS John Sargent has resigned from his position as Clerk with the Fishers Island Ferry District effective April 30, 2018; and

WHEREAS John Sargent is not owed any additional compensation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners accepts the resignation of Mr. Sargent with effect April 30, 2018.

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Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2018 – 077

WHEREAS the District ratified the August 17, 2017 Stipulation of Agreement with CSEA, Inc. Local 1000, AFSCME, AFL-CIO regarding Advancement Ladders and;

WHEREAS said Advancement Ladders define minimum wages for certain positions and;

WHEREAS the District did not increase wages to meet such minimum wages for certain employees in those positions. It is therefore

RESOLVED to retroactively increase, beginning August 17, 2017, the hourly wage of the two District employees listed below and to retroactively pay the difference between previous wage rates and the correct wage rates, in the amounts listed below, the total of all payments equal to \$1172.85

	Old Rate	New Rate	Total Retroactive Payment
John Morgan	\$28.15	\$29.00	\$1,151.01
George Marshall	\$12.11	\$12.50	21.84

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Other** - Mr. Murphy reported that historically, the FIFD has hired a part-time laborer at the freight shed during the summer months. Mr. Murphy has interviewed a candidate and will bring forward to the next meeting. In addition, management is discussing the possibility of hiring a part-time laborer for mowing at Elizabeth Field and general snow removal.

Chairman Ahrens met with members of the Fishers Island Conservancy and their concerns regarding people driving on South Beach. Per Chairman Ahrens, the Conservancy is offering to fund any signage or barriers to prohibit motorized vehicles on the beach.

Mr. Cook informed the BOC that many contractors are storing their freight in the freight shed for long periods of time. The current policy that charges \$5 a day after 5 days of storage is not intended for the purpose of storing the freight for 5 days. Due to limited space, all freight should be received and picked up upon delivery. Discussion ensued regarding commercial container space. Management will continue to look at viable options in the future.



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Chairman Ahrens reported that Mrs. Jane Ahrens developed a mock business card size ferry schedule to view. All BOC members are in favor of the idea and Chairman Ahrens will move forward with ordering.

**Next Scheduled Meeting – Monday, May 14, 2018 at 4:30pm with a 3:30 working session at the Island Community Center.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner D. Shillo, seconded by Commissioner A. Ahrens, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 pm.