

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
July 8, 2019

Chairman 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 July 8, 2019 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners Heather Burnham, William Bloethe, Peter Rugg and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy and Deanna Ross. There were no members of the public present.

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

**Correspondence/Public Comment** – No Correspondence was received. There was no public comment.

**Budget Modification**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 104

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District

hereby increases the **2019** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

Revenues

SM. 2210	Services, Other Govt (Rent)	\$16,000
		<hr/>
		\$16,000

Appropriations

SM. 1950.4.000.000	Property Tax	\$16,000
		<hr/>
		\$16,000

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

## **Warrant**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 105

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated July 8, 2019 in the amount of \$70,496.50.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

## **Management Reports**

**Traffic** - Mr. Cook reported that June 2019 passenger count was down 200 from the previous year. Commissioner Burnham reported that there were no weddings on the island in June and this may be the difference. In addition, cars were up by 200 and commercial traffic was up compared to June 2018.

**Marine Update** - Mr. Cook reported that there has been no change since last meeting and both boats are running well. Management continues to work on plans for new mufflers for the Munnatawket. Commissioner Rugg suggested that the architect consider harmonics which may be causing the increased noise.

**Fast Passenger Ferry Update** - Mr. Cook reported that the Silver Eel has carried 600 passengers since starting in June. Management will present the BOC with detailed traffic data for Silver Eel, including load factor, at the next meeting. Commissioner Rugg suggested that management consider calculating load factor for the big boats as well to assist in future planning for a new boat. Advertising for golf charters started two weeks ago. Management will look into box holder mailing cost for advertising.

**Airport** - Mr. Murphy reported that the previous resolution 2019 - 103 must be rescinded as it was in draft form as presented. There has been an issue with the lighting at the airport which management continues to trouble shoot to find a solution. Service is being shut down from dusk to dawn at this time. In addition, management is awaiting response from Mr. Hubert regarding the RFP for Airport Management. The BOC has agreed to a 70%/30% revenue share (FD/BH). Mrs. Ahrens posted a reminder on the Fishers Island Website reminding all that runways are for air traffic only and pedestrians and vehicles are not permitted.

## **Airport**

RESOLUTION 2019 – 106

It is RESOLVED to rescind resolution 2019-103

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

**Property** - Mr. Cook reported that BD started last week with the apartment project above the freight building. Fences arrived today and will be going up. Commissioner Burnham reported that the fire suppression system is much less onerous with regard to scale and scope. The BOC has requested that management have Mark from BD and Matt from Walsh Park come to the next BOC meeting working session for a big picture update and plan including any impact on ferry operations. Mr. Cook reported that he spoke with the TOS property tax assessor and is planning to meet with him during Southold Town Day on August 7, 2019.

**Theater Update** - Mr. Murphy reported that FFIT programming is going well.

**Blank Rome Retainer** - Discussion ensued regarding legal professional services. Commissioner Rugg reported that he spoke with Chris Roosevelt and continues to await word from attorney Rich Miller with regard to the Enabling Act. The BOC has agreed to table the current legal retainer until more information is received.

### **Vision Insurance**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 107

WHEREAS Employees of the District who are members of the Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., as well as unaffiliated District employees, desire to put in place vision insurance coverage commencing July 1, 2019 in which participation is voluntary and for which participants will pay 100% of their coverage premium; and

WHEREAS the insurance broker Gowrie Group presented options; and

WHEREAS the Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Small Groups Insurance plan was selected based on coverage and terms;

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED, that commencing July 1, 2019, the District shall make available to its employees the Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Small Groups insurance plan and authorize management to execute all contract and ancillary documents relating to the Plan subject to review by counsel; and

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that management be authorized and instructed to work with the Gowrie Group to review any other related documents as the case may be and in general to finalize and put in place this vision care coverage program commencing July 1, 2019.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

### **Hay Harbor Softball Transportation**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 108

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the special use of the ferry to transport Ferry District employees from New London to Fishers Island and back for the purpose of the annual softball match between Hay Harbor Club and the Ferry District on Wednesday, July 24, 2019.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

**Other** - Chairman Ahrens spoke with Bob Coleman from the Finance Committee and it has been suggested that it would be fruitful for the BOC and the Finance Committee to have a joint meeting some-time in August with regard to finance/budget issues. The BOC was in agreement. Mr. Murphy reported that he will be starting on material for the upcoming election and budget this week.

### **Executive Session**

At 17:28, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for discussing personnel matters.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

At 17:47, the following resolution was proposed:

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

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner P. Rugg

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

### **HR**

RESOLUTION 2019 - 109

WHEREAS the following Steven Conary has exceeded the requirement of both of his positions;

THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED to increase Steven Conary's hourly wage rate from \$13.51 to \$14.00 for both his Deckhand (FIFD) and Cashier (FIFD) positions with effect June 6, 2019.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2019 – 110

The Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the resignation of employee # 82995 with effect July 5, 2019. Employee # 82995 does not have any accruals.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2019 – 111

The Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District accepts the resignation of Kathleen Alfred-Nieman with effect July 10, 2019. Ms. Nieman does not have any accruals.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe, H. Burnham, P. Rugg and D. Shillo

Nays: None

**Next Scheduled Meeting – Monday, July 22, 2019 at 4:30 pm at the Fishers Island Community Center.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner W. Bloethe, seconded by Commissioner H. Burnham, the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 pm.