

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Fishers Island Ferry District
October 15, 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 or “District”) to order on October 15, 2019 at 4:30 PM.

Commissioners William Bloethe, Heather Burnham and Dianna Shillo were present. Also in attendance were Gordon Murphy and Deanna Ross. Members of the public included Mere Doyen. RJ Burns was present via telephone. Commissioner Peter Rugg was absent.

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

Correspondence/Public Comment – Mr. Cook received correspondence from Mr. Paul Giles requesting consideration to waive the four-month waiting period for two employees of the FI Club who will now be full time residents. Mr. Murphy has responded to Mr. Giles and is awaiting their applications. Mr. Burns would like to thank Heather and David Burnham for the recent Pit Party. A fun time was had by all. Commissioner Burnham also thanked the Ferry District for running Silver Eel to assist in getting folks home.

Warrant

RESOLUTION 2019 - 148

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated October 15, 2019, in the amount of \$49,944.63.

Moved by: Commissioner D. Shillo

Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

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

Nays: None

2020 Budget

RESOLUTION 2019 - 149

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the 2020 budget in the amount of \$4,673,800.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe

Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens

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

Nays: None

Management Reports

Marine Update - RJ Burns updated the BOC. Mr. Burns reported that Munnatawket would be leaving for the shipyard between October 16th and October 22nd. There has been an issue with one of the generators on Race Point so management will take advantage of the delay and take Race Point off service this Thursday and Friday for maintenance. Mr. Burns will be speaking with the shipyard tomorrow to develop a schedule. Contractual estimated time for the Munnatawket shipyard period is two months.

Silver Eel Update - Silver Eel is running well. There are some welding repairs that are forthcoming. Due to upcoming inclement weather, management will “play it by ear” with regard to running Silver Eel. There are no updated numbers for Silver Eel at this time. Commissioner Bloethe inquired about an incident last week where Silver Eel would not start. Mr. Burns reported that it was due to a minor operation error where the kill switch was not all the way in giving a false indication and it would not start. When it did start, the fuel level was low with high winds so the trip was cancelled.

Resident Discount Program - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Management is looking into the appropriate criteria and would like input from the BOC. It was agreed that proof of 270 days of residency is the most important criteria. Ultimate discretion remains with the BOC. Discussion ensued and Commissioner Burnham agreed to review the language and the highlighted pieces of the program. Mr. Murphy will present at the next BOC meeting.

Airport Fare Increase - Mr. Murphy updated the BOC. Discussion ensued regarding the draft 2020 airport landing and tie-down fees. Seasonal passes will not be materially affected. In an effort to capture commercial traffic and increase airport revenue, Mr. Murphy is working with Fare Harbor to set up a web based payment option for landing and tie-down fees. Mr. Murphy has also agreed to reach out to the local resident pilots to discuss prior to implementation. The resolution will be tabled at this time. Mr. Murphy also reported that he is in the process of preparing an FAA airport obstruction report that includes lighting, signs, brush and several trees.

Consulting Agreement

RESOLUTION 2019 – 150

Whereas the City of New London, CT requires a personal property declaration to be filed annually; and

Whereas Management has determined that EFPR Group CPAs (“EFPR”) provides the best value;

Therefore it is RESOLVED to accept EFPR’s quote not to exceed \$1,500 and authorize management to execute the consulting agreement with EFPR.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham

Seconded by: Commissioner D. Shillo

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

Nays: None

Fare Update - Continued discussion ensued regarding the proposed ferry fare increases. The BOC wishes to move to a single yearly pricing structure. Management will continue to analyze the data and the BOC has agreed to further discuss the proposal at the next scheduled BOC working session.

Executive Session - The BOC has agreed that no executive session is needed at this time.

Next Scheduled Meeting is Monday, October 28, 2019 @ 4:30 pm with a 3:30 pm working session 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 5:58 pm.