



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING MINUTES

November 15, 2020

Directors Present: Allan Baum, Gary Clinton, Tami Hausman, Greg Henniger, Chris Lovito, Chris Mai, Jay Pagano, Tad Paul, Henry Robin, Leland Rechis, Russell Saray, Eric Sawyer, Ed Schulhafer, Matt Tague, Jim Vandernoeth

Also Present: Karen McCutcheon (Community Manager), Ken Pollard (Finance Manager)

Virtual meeting called to order by President Henry Robin at 10:32 am on Zoom with disclaimer that the meeting is being recorded for the first draft of the minutes and will not be retained.

Gary Clinton motioned to approve the meeting minutes of the September 12th Board Meeting with his minor changes. Greg Henniger seconded, and the motion carried.

President's Report

Committee Assignments and Chairs

- Audit & Finance – Eric Sawyer
- Harbor – Jim Vandernoeth
- Insurance – Roger Kluge
- Wagon Rack – Gary Clinton
- Zoning – Greg Henniger
- Whyte Hall – Eric Sawyer
- Political Action Committee (FIPPOAPAC) – Ed Schulhafer and Henry Robin
- Seashore Defense Fund (SDF) – Russell Saray
- Fire Island Association (FIA) Liaison – Karen McCutcheon and Henry Robin
- Harbor Recognition – Gary Clinton
- Fire Department (FIPFD) Liaison – Leland Rechis
- Quality of Life – Vinnie Petrarca
- Community Bulletin Board – Staff Function
- Boulevard Committee – Henry Robin, Allan Baum, Karen McCutcheon from FIPPOA and PJ McAteer, Jamie Blumenthal and Doug Teague from the Chamber

License Agreements

- Jay Pagano and Robin had 2 very productive zoom meetings with Town Supervisor Ed Romaine and Town Councilman Neil Foley
 - Romaine is very receptive to get the license agreements through the Town
 - The first Extended agreement expired at the beginning of the year
 - Cannot build additional corrals until agreement with the Town is reached
 - The agreement covering the Whyte Hall Deck expired in 2019 and has not yet been renewed.
 - The appraisal of this agreement was valued at \$30,000
 - The agreement covering the remaining length of the boulevard is in the process of being appraised.
 - As requested FIPPOA submitted expense information to the Town
 - Boulevard income does not cover expenses
 - Karen McCutcheon followed up with the Town to ensure we supplied what they needed
 - There will be another meeting with Romaine and Foley the week after Thanksgiving

Fire Island Boulevard

- On Wednesday, November 4th, the Boulevard Committee did an inspection
 - Wide variety of uses by the contractors.
 - Committee considering charging squatters as they are on Town Property covered in the Pine to Crown license agreement
 - The Committee is going to come up with guidelines that all can agree to.
 - FIPPOA needs enforcement capabilities to be able to manage the boulevard.
- A joint letter from FIPFD, The Chamber and FIPPOA to Highway Superintendent Dan Losquadro asking for the Highway Department to grade the boulevard for public safety is being drafted.
 - Brownie gave an unofficial quote of \$500,000 to grade the boulevard.

Ferry Service

- Ken Stein and Robin have had a very productive dialogue over the past month and Stein has provided ridership statistics
 - Many homes are extending the season thru September and October.
 - Many contractors have been getting requests to winterize houses.
 - During the COVID pandemic, people have been commuting differently.
 - To date SFS has provided roughly two times the number of ferries in prior years.
 - SFS has been analyzing ridership statistics and announcing schedule changes about 48 hours in advance
 - To give more lead time in announcing schedule changes, would result in less ferries since ridership statistics would not be current.
 - Ken Stein said a later boat on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving will not run.

- Not enough riders to make it viable.
- Will speak with Diane Romano to see if Cherry Grove and the Pines can subsidize this Wednesday evening boat if the ridership not there.

Garbage Contract

- FIPPOA requested an increase in the landing fees from \$100K to \$150K to which the Town agreed to multiple times.
 - The Town circulated the bid documents without the increase
 - Brookhaven has a tax ceiling of 1.7% overall limit for district tax increase.
 - \$100K to \$150K was over the ceiling.
 - The fee can't be changed since the contract was already bid out.
 - Ed Romaine agreed that the Town would amend the contract for 2022 to show a \$10,000 increase in the landing fee and a COLA every year thereafter.
- The old contract provided for 20 free rollofs at the discretion of the Waste Management Commissioner.
 - This paragraph was deleted from the bid document.
 - Currently roll-offs are \$900 so the omission of the 20 rollofs is a definite loss to the community.
 - We are supplied with two roll-offs for waste and recycling over the winter.
- Effective January 1, 2021, Brownie & Company will be the Waste Management contractor in the Pines.
 - Jeremy Brownie has talked about getting electric carts which would be less noisy.
 - Brownie & Co would like to do more business in the Pines and plan to rent a FIB corral when one becomes available.

2021 Meeting Dates will be circulated within the next week.

COVID-10 restrictions may prohibit an in-person December meeting and Holiday party.

COBE Recommendations (Gary Clinton)

The COBE (a FIPPOA committee) recommendations were adopted by the Board at its meeting of August 1, 2020.

- The Harbor Recognition Committee is being formed now
 - Full committee of about 6 or 7 people will be formed in the next few weeks
 - Once the task list is formed it will be using the newsletter list to solicit recommendations for honorees
 - Specific outreach to those outside of the community will be undertaken as well.
 - In 2021, the committee will be looking to artists for the opportunity to review their portfolio
 - Committee will look to install a new stanchion in the harbor and/or install a new stanchion in early May.
 - The dedication event may be tied with the Juneteenth celebration.

- Seneca Mudd will be taking the lead role in organizing the Juneteenth celebration
 - Whyte Hall has been reserved for the weekend of June 18th.
 - Like the Invasion, Juneteenth may require expenses supported by FIPPOA.
 - Eric Sawyer will be putting together a budget.
 - The event may have sponsorships to help underwrite

Internet (Leland Rechis)

- This Committee has been meeting every week since the FIPPOA election
 - Looking at 2 key strategies
 - Short term communications
 - What the future demands will be
 - Do not want to interfere with the business already in existence: TPP Wireless and Barrier Free.
 - Committee would like to survey the community asking for their needs and experience
 - Cherry Grove should be included in the survey.
 - Will use the survey results to make a case to Verizon for FIOS.
 - Will be prepared to present data in any configuration Verizon would like.

Treasurer (Eric Sawyer)

- Since election, have been reviewing accounts and becoming familiar with our bookkeeping.
 - Will present a more detailed Treasurer's report at the next board meeting.
- 2020 has been unique, but FIPPOA will only show a small deficit for the year.
 - No closing party, no membership party, no administrative assistant
 - Due to COVID, no rental income or user donations for Whyte Hall
 - Whyte Hall did not need to fill the building manager position
 - Increase in seasonal boaters but decrease in transient boaters.
 - Membership income was over budget by \$14,000 due to contested election.
- FIPPOA is in a much better position than last year on collections.
 - One unpaid 2019 boat slip may need to be written off as the person is not unresponsive to our attempts to collect.
- The Pines Party was budgeted at \$175,000 for 2020 (\$25,000 to reserve and \$50,000 to Stonewall.
 - Even though the event was cancelled it raised about \$65,000
 - \$40,000 was donated to Stonewall
- The 2021 budgeting process will be started around Thanksgiving time.
 - Sawyer will be polling the board for budget numbers for their areas of responsibility
- The Whyte Hall Annual Fund letter is being worked on now.

PAC (Henry Robin)

- FIPPOAPAC sponsored a fundraiser for Nancy Goroff for Congress.
 - It was well received and over 30 people contributed.
 - Raised \$5,800 from individuals and FIPPOAPAC gave \$1,000.

- Chris Lovito did a great job with the fundraiser for Monica Martinez.
 - FIPPOAPAC donated \$2,500 to the Martinez campaign.

Adjourned at 12:10