

Trustees of the Hingham Bathing Beach

Minutes for the meeting held on January 4, 2017

at the Hingham Town Hall

- Trustees Edward Johnson, Alan Perrault and Chris Daly in attendance.
- Mark Thorell and Vicki Donlan from The Recreation Commission were in attendance.
- Robert Rosenthal from the South Elementary School attended the meeting.

- Chairman Perrault called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.
- No previous meeting minutes drafted yet and ready to approve.
- Discussion with Rec. Commission representatives about the Rec Commission potentially managing the lifeguards at the Bathing Beach
 - Stephanie Higgins has been hired to by the Rec. to manage the lifeguards at South Shore Country Club pool. The SSCC will have 20-25 lifeguards on staff.
 - E. Johnson stated that the lifeguards at the beach should have “ocean” or “waterfront” lifesaving certification.
 - The Trustees would recommend the re-hiring of last years’ beach supervisor, Clark Robinson.
 - Rec. Dept. managers would check in at the beach regularly when lifeguards are working.
 - The Bathing Beach Trustees would still manage the payroll and we could do this via interdepartmental billing.
 - The Trustees reminded the Rec. representatives of the tide timings with the beach opening and the corresponding scheduling implications.
 - E. Johnson commented that he would like to see swim lessons back at the beach. Could be done in combination with swim lessons at the SSCC pool.
 - Two lifeguards are needed on the beach at all times.
 - After a very good discussion it was requested that M. Thorell write up a short proposal for the lifeguard management at the beach. Trustees will review and decide by the end of January. M. Thorell will also advise the Board of Selectmen and the Town HR Manager about our discussions.
- Robert Rosenthal of South Elementary School PTO addressed the Trustees with questions about scheduling a winter swim event at the beach as fundraising event.
 - The various requirements were discussed including obtaining the proper insurance, signing waivers by the swimmers and obtaining permission from parents of all swimmers under the age of 18. The L Street Brownies New Year’s Day swim can be used as an example of what is needed to hold such an event.
 - C. Daly to forward the contact information of the HHS Swim Team booster parent to R. Rosenthal as the swim team has held such an event in the past.
- A. Perrault gave an update on the Concessionaire RFP for the planned new bathhouse/harborfront building.
 - A Q&A session was held last week at the office of Strelakovsky & Assoc. Sullivan’s of Castle Island sent three representatives.
 - A representative of Eat Well, Inc. has picked up a copy of the RFP documents and asked a few questions to the Town Engineer this week.
- Town Meeting warrant article
 - The current plan is to submit a combined article with the Harbor Development Committee to cover the additional funds needed to build the new bathhouse and for the engineering on the wharves being considered for repair. A. Perrault is working on the article with the Town Engineer and the Chair of the HDC.
- Budget – E. Johnson advised that approval of our budget (very similar to previous years) is expected by the Advisory Committee.
- Signage at the beach

- The entrance sign needs to be repainted. C. Daly to contact DPW to see if they can help. Additional signs welcoming guest to the beach at each walkway are needed. These signs should also list some of the more important beach rules, in a positive way.
- Community Preservation Act application for extension of the walkway through the Grove.
 - CPC votes on Jan 11, 2017 on the application.
 - The DCR has a grant program for paths and trails. Funds are issued between \$5000 and \$50,000. We will apply for the grant. All monies received will go into the CPA funds.
 - If the CPA application is approved at Town Meeting the earliest we could install the walkway would be Fall 2017.
- Kayak and Paddle board storage at the beach
 - The Trustees discussed the pros and cons of offering this residents. Would attract more people to the beach but would have to determine how to handle the use of the kayaks and paddleboards outside of the swim area.
- C. Daly made a motion to adjourn the meeting. E. Johnson seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.