

Trustees of the Hingham Bathing Beach

Minutes for the meeting held on March 9, 2017

at the Town Engineer/DPW Office

- Trustees Edward Johnson, Alan Perrault and Chris Daly in attendance.
- Bill Reardon of the Harbor Development Committee attended the meeting.
- Roger Fernandes and Tom Molinari of the Town Engineering Dept. were in attendance.
- John Hersey, resident, also in attendance

- The Trustees reviewed the minutes as drafted from previous meetings.
 - E. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2016 meeting as drafted. A. Perrault seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.
 - E. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 9, 2016 meeting as drafted. A. Perrault seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.
 - E. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2017 meeting as drafted. A. Perrault seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.
 - E. Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2017 meeting as drafted. A. Perrault seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes were unanimously approved.
- A. Perrault provided an update on the concessionaire proposal for the planned new bathhouse. Two meetings have been held with the applicant to discuss lease terms. Topics discussed included rent in years 1 through 5, rental and management of the community room and potential use by the Recreation Department.
- The Recreation Commission has issued a letter of support and interest confirming their intention to rent the community room for events.
- J. Hersey asked that the Trustees ensure that the first row of parking along the beach is reserved for beach users. The Trustees confirmed that this will be the case and additional signage to enforce this will be in place before the next beach season.

- Preparation for Advisory Committee meeting later in the evening on warrant article.
 - The Board of Selectman voted unanimously to support Article S as submitted by the bathing Beach Trustees.
 - The Advisory Board will vote tonight.
 - B. Reardon gave an over view of articles R and GG which have been submitted by the Harbor Development Committee and will also be reviewed this evening.
 - The timing of a potential application by the town to the Seaport Bond Council for a grant to support the project to repair and improve the wharves was discussed. Hingham Maritime Center may also make an application in the future to support their planned improvements on Barnes Wharf.
- CPC warrant article and the Trustee's application for funds to extend the current walkway along the harbor.
 - A. Perrault advised that the Advisory Committee had questions about using alternative materials for the walkway.
 - Using stone dust would be less expensive but would limit the ease of handicapped access.
 - Using alternative materials would be less aesthetically appealing as it would not match the current boardwalk to which we are trying to make the connection to.

- The application for the DCR grant for trails and pathways has been submitted for \$100,000. DCR advised that they have received 80 applications. The fund has \$1 million to allocate to the grants. We may hear from the DCR in late Spring 2017.
- Discussions regarding signage and lifeguard staffing
 - C. Daly reviewed the two options for replacing the front entrance sign. DPW has helped out and contacted their sign maker and has forwarded a quote with two options. One, a plastic material and the other out of wood. The “No Dogs...” line on the sign should be removed as there very likely will need to be separate signage and rules for dog walking between the beach and The Grove.
 - Removal of the CPC project sign (walkway, parking lot work, beach improvements) was discussed as the project is now complete. R. Fernandes to talk to R. Sylvester of DPW about removal of the sign (and also the similar sign at Whitney Wharf).
 - The front row parking for beach users was again discussed. It was concluded that three signs were be appropriate. It was also discussed that the Hingham Farmers Market should provide more assistance with ensuring that this is enforced on Saturdays from May to November.
 - E. Johnson gave an update on the lifeguard staffing for the upcoming season
 - Clarke Robinson will be returning as the beach supervisor. He will be contacting last year’s guards to determine their interest in returning this year.
 - Clarke is also drafting regulations for the guards.
 - Several applications have already come in for the guard positions so staffing may not be a problem this year.
 - C. Daly recommended adding the application form to the job listing on the town website. The listing requests a resume. Lifeguards are typically teenagers and most do not have a resume.
- A. Perrault gave an update on the geese control plans for 2017.
- The Trustees discussed the beach erosion that occurred on the northern end of the beach. The seawall was not exposed and the planted beach grass was not affected. The erosion was less than what was expected considering the extent of the storm. It was concluded that the beach performed as expected and as detailed in the beach management plan. DPW will in the near future move the sand back that was scoured away from the boat ramp to the beach.
- E. Johnson made a motion to adjourn at 10:55 am. C. Daly seconded the motion. A vote was taken the motion was approved unanimously.