

**Newburyport Waterfront Trust**  
Police Station Conference Room  
April 17, 2019  
Discussion Notes

**1. Call to Order**

A meeting of the Newburyport Waterfront Trust was scheduled for Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m. The agenda was not posted in accordance with the public meeting law and the meeting was cancelled. An informal discussion took place.

**2. Roll Call**

In attendance were Trustees Steve Hines, Wilbur Shenk and Dan Mello. Attorney Grace Connolly was also present.

**3. Informal Discussion**

Mayor Holaday and City Council agreed on an action to immediately dissolve the NRA. Order 24 was sent to the Massachusetts legislature to disband the NRA under the Home Rule petition. The NRA land would become the property of the City instead of the Waterfront Trust, as had been the intention of the NRA. The NRA is taking no further action to transfer its property at this time. The responsibility to build the park and remediate the soil issues would now lie with the City.

In 2013, the NRA voted to transfer the bulkhead to the Waterfront Trust. This was not included in Order 24, but Councilor Eigerman has expressed his opinion that this transfer should go forward.

Bill Harris commented that differences exist with regards to the Ways to the Water between Order 24 and the NRA. Jared Eigerman has indicated that the portion of Somerby's Way on NRA property should be transferred to the Waterfront Trust. Order 24 would place Central Wharf Way in its historic location at the base of Unicorn Street. The order would also have Ferry Wharf Way run perpendicular to the shore, which would place it in the center of the parking lot and not be in keeping with the NRA's conceptual design of the park. Mr. Harris said the survey that was recently completed should not be recorded because its location of the ways is incorrect.

Joanie Purinton said she is concerned the City will chip away at the waterfront land and the COWS have supported the land being transferred to the Trust because it would then be protected.

**4. Park Use Applications**

- A check was received from Sarah Oleson in the amount of \$350 for Sunday morning yoga classes during the summer. A vote to approve the classes will be taken at the next meeting.
- The use of the park for World Tai Chi day on April 27 between 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. will be ratified at the next meeting.
- The Riverfest is to be held in Gloucester this year. The Chamber of Commerce might wish to hold a smaller event in the park the weekend after Labor Day.

**5. Park Manager's Report**

- The spring cleanup of the park has been completed.
- Mike Hennessey has begun pruning the crab apple trees.
- The irrigation system will be turn on April 30.
- An assistant has been hired for weeding four to six hours per week.