

Newburyport Waterfront Trust
November 7, 2011
Police Station Conference Room
Minutes

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Newburyport Waterfront Trust was called to order by Co-Chair Doug Locy at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were members Cliff Goudey, Catherine Russell, Joyce Enderle and Doug Locy and Manager Charlie Nichols.

3. Request for Additional Agenda Items

Doug Locy requested that the estimate from Bob Uhlig for improvements to the park be added to the agenda.

4. Minutes

Doug Locy moved to approve the minutes of the October 3 meeting as amended. Catherine Russell seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Manager's Report

Charlie Nichols reported:

- the new back flow preventer must be removed for the winter at a cost of \$75.
- the DPS has not yet had time to remove the trees behind Not Your Average Joe's due to an employee injury and the October snowstorm. A pear tree fell near the emergency exit of the Firehouse and was removed.
- a bill was received from the Handyman, Inc. for the installation of two bench plaques.
- the DPS will not be acquiring the equipment that would allow it to remove snow from the boardwalk and Railroad Avenue. ND Landscape submitted a quote for the work. Any accumulation of three inches or more would be removed. Catherine Russell asked about the use of ice melt. Joyce Enderle said ND Landscape submitted information on the material it uses last year. Charlie Nichols said the company understands the area is a sensitive one.
- the Rosa rugosa in the parking lot had grown too tall and was cut back to a height of six inches. ND Landscape submitted a bill for \$265 to cut the material and haul it away.
- he usually removes the flag before he goes away during the winter. Ken Sears, 1 Merrimac Street, Unit 29, would like the flag to remain in place and has volunteered to remove it during storms.

6. Treasurer's Report

Doug Locy said that while the balance on the account statement has increased by approximately \$4,000, there will be additional deductions, as some checks are outstanding. Income included \$7,500 for parking and \$700 from Jim Ford. Two checks

Newburyport Waterfront Trust
November 7, 2011

totally \$2,000 for bench plaques were recently received and were not included in the balance.

Doug Locy moved to approve the payment of an invoice from the Handyman, Inc. for \$100 for the installation of two bench plaques. Joyce Enderle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Applications for Park Use

Doug Locy said an application has been received for a spring beer festival and fall wine tasting. The applicant would be responsible for clean up and security and would work with a local charity. An exemption would be needed from the clause in the agreement that prohibits the use of alcohol in the park. Cliff Goudey said the WFT has never allowed the sale of food or alcohol in the park and he would not support a change to this policy. Trustees suggested that the applicant might wish to ask the Maritime Society or the NRA about hosting the event because permitting alcohol on Trust property is not likely to be approved.

Doug Locy said the National Geographic has been filming tuna boats in Newburyport and Gloucester. A standard release was approved for filming on Trust property.

8. New Business

Rob Germinara said that he and Wayne Cates have purchased a 28-foot lobster boat called the *Kelsey Marie*. He said he thinks the boat would be a good addition to the embayment and asked that he be allowed to dock on the west side near the ladder. Cliff Goudey said the Trust does not assign spaces and he would have to work out the arrangement himself. Doug Locy will send a contract to Mr. Germinara, who will submit a payment of \$350 now and a second payment of the same amount in January. Doug Locy moved to allow the *Kelsey Marie* to tie up in the embayment. Joyce Enderle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

A discussion on the formation of a subcommittee to meet with the Mayor, the Harbor Commission and the NRA was deferred.

The City Council has approved the realignment of the terms of the Trustees. Candidates are needed to fill the vacancy that will be created when Joyce Enderle's term ends next month.

9. Old Business

• Snow Removal on the Boardwalk

Cliff Goudey said that snow removal services are competitive and the Trustees should seek other quotes for the work. Charlie Nichols said he does not think the Ways to the Water should be cleared as the boardwalk can be accessed from the parking lot. ND Landscape submitted a quote of \$204 for shoveling, \$36 for ice melt, and \$116 for a service call for applying the ice melt. Cliff Goudey said ND Landscape is reliable and it might be too late to begin requesting other quotes. Catherine Russell said she would like

the snow to be removed from Railroad Avenue. Charlie Nichols will ask ND Landscape to provide a quote for that work. Doug Locy moved to approve the removal of snow from the boardwalk by ND Landscape. Joyce Enderle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

• **Repair of the Boardwalk**

Charlie Nichols said the Handyman does not wish to work on any more planks, as he thinks it poses too much of a liability. There are some blocks missing from under the benches but this does is not a safety issue. Joyce Enderle said the cause of the problem with the planks on the boardwalk should be determined. Cliff Goudey said the fasteners are not long enough and 12" galvanized spikes should be used. He said he thinks the City would be responsible for the work and he will speak with Georgie Vining about the issue. The work to repair the boardwalk might need to be handled by a larger company that carries more insurance.

• **Fishing Boat Leases**

Doug Locy said he requested that Dean Holt attend the meeting to explain the reason he believes he does not owe the Trust \$350. He will contact him to ask him why he did not attend. Mr. Holt docked in the embayment for half a year in 2009 and owes \$350 for that period. An insurance form for the *Katie May* has not yet been received and a payment for the *Early Times* is outstanding. The payments from Jim Ford are up to date. Cliff Goudey said the Trustees would have to decide what action should be taken; while the fishing boats are an asset to the community, it is not fair that some do not pay for docking. He said the Trust would not relent in collecting what is due.

• **Annual Report**

Doug Locy said feedback on the annual report has been positive except for the mention of a sixth Way to the Water. There was historically a way to the west of the Firehouse but only five ways were transferred.

• **Parking**

Cliff Goudey said the Parking Commission has not met in quite a while. He has not been successful in contacting Sage Solutions about the parking meters. Doug Locy said the fee for the meeting in automatically withdrawn from the bank account and should this should be stopped.

• **Brown's Wharf Signage**

Doug Locy said no new information has been received on the Brown's Wharf signage. Joyce Enderle said the charter charges the Trust with facilitating the enjoyment of the water and signs play an important role in that. She said she does not think the signs are a problem. Doug Locy said that while the signs might be acceptable, permission must be obtained before they are installed. A consolidate sign would relieve some of the proliferation. Cliff Goudey said the boats provide a public service and the signs help the public to find them. He said some signs would be grandfathered and the Trust must be vigilant about new signs. Doug Locy suggested that photographs be taken of existing

signs. He also said that no feedback has been received to date on the letter he sent regarding the Trustees' concern about the proliferation of signage and that permission must be given for the installation of any new signs. Cliff Goudey moved that the signs for tour boats on the Transportation Dock be approved for continued display in their current positions and while existing signs might be replaced in kind, the Trust must approve of the number and size of any new signs. Joyce Enderle seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

• **Reorientation of the Ticket Booth**

Doug Locy said the Trustees had voted that the ticket booth must be reoriented by October 15. It was also voted that the booth must be wired in accordance the City electrical code after it is reoriented. Cliff Goudey said he will speak with George Hilton but he does not think there would be a problem. Catherine Russell said that reorienting the booth is a short-term solution. Because it is large and blocks views of the water, she would like the booth to eventually be moved to a new location.

10. Other Business

Doug Locy said the Trust might wish to engage the design services of Bob Uhlig, who has many good ideas about how the park might be improved. Cliff Goudey said this might best be done at the time the Trust is ready to proceed with changes to the park, which might not be until it is determined what is happening on the adjacent properties. He said the Trust is currently not in the position to redesign the park. Doug Locy said the park could be improved upon and the plans might be phased in over the long term. Catherine Russell said the Trust should be proactive in order that its policies might influence what happens on the abutting properties. Charlie Nichols said he does not think a plan could be developed before it is known now the NRA intends to develop its land. Cliff Goudey said the Trustees should become involved in the NRA's process and attempt to influence the direction of the plans. Cliff Goudey said the Trust should work with the Planning Department rather than hiring an independent designer. Doug Locy said he would speak with Geordie Vining,

11. Adjournment

Joyce Enderle moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Doug Locy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.