

Newburyport Waterfront Trust
October 23, 2014
Police Station Conference Room
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Doug Locy called a meeting of the Newburyport Waterfront Trust to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were Trustees Doug Locy, Scott Sutherland, Steve Hines, Joe Brown and Wilbur Shenk.

3. Minutes

Joe Brown moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2014 meeting. Doug Locy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joe Brown moved to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2014 meeting. Doug Locy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Treasurer's Report

Joe Brown said income for September totaled \$1,457 and expenses for the month totaled \$7,810, bringing the account balance to \$194,496. Doug Locy moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Scott Sutherland seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joe Brown moved to reimbursement Scott Sutherland the amount of \$261.64 for the Computer Plus posting agreement. Doug Locy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joe Brown moved to approve a payment to McCarthy and Sons in the amount of \$251.95 for the replacement of heads in the irrigation system. Doug Locy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Joe Brown moved to approve a payment to McCarthy and Sons in the amount of \$2,556.20, which included \$1,192.81 for the aeration and seeding of the lawn after the Riverfest, \$300 for the application of weed control and \$1,063.39 for repairs to the irrigation system that was damaged during the Riverfest. Scott Sutherland seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Scott Sutherland and Steve Hines will be added as signatories for bank accounts.

5. Park Use Applications

Edith Heyck will serve as the wedding coordinator.

6. Meeting Dates

The next meeting of the Trust will be rescheduled for Tuesday, November 18.

7. Committee Assignments

Joe Brown moved to appoint Wilbur Shenk as secretary and to the parks committee. Doug Locy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Scott Sutherland will serve as the assistant treasurer when Joe Brown is absent.

8. Tree Assessment and Pruning

Bob Uhlig said he and arborist Ben Staples identified the trees on Trust property that should be pruned or replaced. A joint meeting with the NRA to evaluate the trees will be scheduled for November 1 at 8:00 a.m. Everett Chandler will be asked to mark the boundaries on the ground between the two groups' properties before the meeting.

9. NRA Proposed Landscape Extension

Bob Uhlig described NRA plans to expand the park by adding movable furniture to three underutilized spaces.

10. Reconfiguration of Riverside Park

Scott Sutherland described alternatives for lighting in Riverside Park. He said the Trust has committed \$25,000 for five lights around the building owned by Joe Leone. The least expensive option for additional lighting would be the box fixtures, such as those in the Green Street parking lot. Three units would be needed at a cost of \$20,000. The fixtures near the High School are less effective and more expensive. Four of those units would be needed for a cost of \$40,000. The Newburyport-style light would be more expensive still, with six fixtures being needed for a cost of \$55,000.

Joe Brown said grant money would be needed to complete the project. He said CPA funds might be a possibility or the Committee for an Open Waterfront might assist with grant writing. Ari Herzog said the City's new grant writer might be of help.

David Murphy said the dimensions and materials for the walkway in front of his building should be the same as by the Ale House. He might be willing to be responsible for the construction for this portion of the walkway. He also might install lighting if the Trust were to purchase the fixtures.

11. Proposal for 2015 Up-River Boat Tour

Bill Taplan is proposing to offer up-river boat tours between Memorial Day and Columbus Day. He described his plans add a new dock that would extend between the end of the whale watch dock and the City dock the embayment. A barrier would be installed to prevent traffic between the recreational and tour boats. Mr. Taplan would be charge \$90 per foot, the same as for other tour boats. Harbormaster Paul Hogg said the proposal would be a good fit for the community. Scott Sutherland moved to approve the request subject to reconsideration based on comments from Harbor Commission. Joe Brown seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

12. Clipper Fleet 2015 Dockage Proposal

Joe Brown said Joseph Grady does not wish to be considered for additional dock space at this time due to changes in the regulations pertaining to the party boat fishing industry. Doug Locy moved to receive and file the dockage proposal for the Clipper Fleet. Joe Brown seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

13. Custom House Way

Doug Locy confirmed there is no AUL on Custom House Way.

14. Park Committee Report

Edith Heyck reviewed the written report she submitted to the Trustees. Joe Brown asked that the revised park use application, which includes an amended fee schedule, be placed on the agenda for a vote at the next meeting.

15. Waterfront Committee Report

The way in which the tour boats were attached to the floats damaged the pilings at the Transportation Dock. A plan for repairing the pilings and preventing further damage must be in place by spring. Paul Hogg will look into installing a roller system.

A bill in the amount of \$631 has been received for the repair of the stanchions for the power receptacles in the embayment that the commercial fishing boats damaged during the winter. The Trustees agreed to cover the cost on the condition action is taken to prevent the damage from reoccurring. The bill will be held until Paul Hogg has arrived at a way to protect the stanchions.

16. Firehouse Lease

Scott Sutherland said Doug Bolick treated the proposal changes to the lease as an addendum to the existing lease. The Firehouse instead wishes to receive a new lease.

17. Parking Committee Report

Scott Sutherland reported the parking revenue to date has totaled \$30,000, which is an increase of 20% over last year. The Trust's agreement with the City is for \$32,000. When the agreement is negotiated next year, the Trust will seek to extend the parking hours from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Parking revenue for the City as a whole has increased by 8% and violations 7%. Permit revenue was increased due to the two-year renewal cycle. With permit revenue excluded, revenue for the City has increased 12% over last year.

18. Waterside Leasing

Doug Locy said he and Steve Hines met with Mayor Holaday about entering into a lease agreement for the City use of the bulkhead where the recreational boats dock. He was told the City is seeking a legal opinion from Kopelman and Paige, which might not be received for two months. Doug Locy will send a letter that reiterates the position of the Trust in order to keep the process moving forward and create a paper trail.

19. Public Comment

None

20. Adjournment

Steve Hines moved to enter into an executive session at 9:15 p.m. and not return to the regular meeting. Joe Brown seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.