

Newburyport Waterfront Trust
Police Station Conference Room
August 23, 2017
Minutes

1. Call to Order

Chair Steve Hines called a regular meeting of the Newburyport Waterfront Trust to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

In attendance were Trustees Wilbur Shenk, Steve Hines and Sean Bradley. Dan Mello was absent.

3. Minutes

Wilbur Shenk moved to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2017 meeting as submitted. Sean Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Treasurer's Report

Wilbur Shenk reported income totaling \$11,600 was received in the month of July from the tour boat operators, Riverfest and the NRA. Expenses of \$24,000 resulted in a negative cash flow of \$12,400. Of this \$6,000 was for reoccurring expenses and \$18,000 was related to the repointing of the stage and the construction of the traffic islands in the Riverside Park parking lot. The account balance is \$166,000. A payment in the amount of \$17,500 is expected from the City for the parking contract and is more than 90 days overdue.

Wilbur Shenk moved to approve payments totaling \$8,252.85 for the reoccurring expenses as well as for the Greenskeeper, Home Depot, pruning, watering, tree work and the refund of deposit for a wedding. Sean Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Wilbur Shenk moved to issue a check to the Firehouse for the use of restrooms in the amount of \$795, which is 20% of the \$3,975 received for events. Sean Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

The draft 2018 budget was distributed. It is fairly well balanced, with \$134,000 in income anticipated and \$139,000 projected for expenses. The expenses include \$42,000 for new projects and \$20,000 for maintenance. Wilbur Shenk moved to approve the draft budget. Sean Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Chairman's Report

Steve Hines reported on the joint meeting with the NRA and a meeting with Mayor Holaday. He will represent the Trust at the upcoming City Council meeting to support the construction of the parking garage. He said the Trust has an interest in the approval

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of the garage because without it the consolidation of the Waterfront Trust and NRA would not occur and parking spaces would not be removed from the waterfront.

The members of COW attending the meeting were asked about the group's opinion on the parking garage. They said the group has not taken a position on the issue because its interest lies only with the waterfront. As individuals they said the Mayor is depending on the revenue from the parking lots to support the garage and they are concerned about how this would impact the revenue needed to maintain an expanded park. They also are concerned about the cost of the garage. Six parking spaces from the street would be lost and 45 spaces in the garage would be set aside for MVTa use, creating a gain of about 150 spaces for a price tag of \$14 million. Those who spoke were in favor of the construction of a surface lot at the Titcomb Street location, which could create about 80 spaces for much less money.

Wilbur Shenk moved that the Waterfront Trust support the construction of the parking garage. Sean Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. Waterfront Committee Report

An amended contract was sent to Jonathan van Kampen, owner of the *Ninth Wave*. Harbormaster Paul Hogg contacted Steve Hines about the Coast Guard's interest in using the embayment for the winter. The Trustees would support the action if the fishing boat operators do not wish to use it. Only one boat was in the embayment last winter and it was not kept there for the entire season. The Coast Guard would install docks.

7. Parks Committee Report

Park Use Applications

Wilbur Shenk moved to approve an application for a wedding scheduled for October 28. Sean Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Wilbur Shenk moved to approve without a fee an application from DMSC Sports for a lunch to be held in the park on September 12 for 100-125 participants in an EverWalk event from Boston to Cape Elizabeth. Sean Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Park Manager Report

Edith Heyck reported the boardwalk has been repaired and the islands in the Riverside Park parking lot have been planted. She said Yankee Homecoming went well, with an average amount of wear and tear on the grass. She reported teenagers have vandalized the electrical box. She asked the Police Department to patrol the area more regularly. The plugs will be removed and a light will be installed to discourage them from congregating in this area.

8. Adjournment

Wilbur Shenk moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Sean Bradley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.