Bonnet Shores Fire District

Working Meeting: Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2021
6:00 PM

Bonnet Shores Community Center – 130 Bonnet Shores Road Narragansett, RI

Call To Order
Chair Carol O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 6:02pm

Present
Council members in attendance included: Chair Carol O'Donnell, Vice Chair Marlene Bellini, Carolyn DiLeo, Bob Anderson, Bill DelGizzo, Anthony DeAngelis, and via Zoom Steve Danuszar. Additional present were District Manager Lisa DiBello and Clerk Stephanie Caldwell.

Discussion and clarification of committees with liaisons
Chair O'Donnell explains the purpose of the meeting is to clarify the liaisons and committee descriptions, as well as update the webmaster with contact information.

Bob Anderson asks to take the liaison position for the Traffic Safety, Security, Public Works, Facility & Traffic Committee and suggests Anthony DeAngelis for liaison of the Budget/ Finance committee considering his background in finance.

Chair O'Donnell discusses follow up on several topics including the stairs at Little Beach have been built, addressing trash left on tables, Bonnet liquors drainage/ fence issue will be sent to the Roads Committee, and Ray Trainor reached out about Joy Lane abandonment to the council again, Bill DelGizzo says he will reach out to him about this.

Marlene asks to clarify count of members of the committee, it is agreed that each committee is to consist of five people including the liaison. Carolyn DiLeo suggests increasing the committee size to seven, the council agrees five members may streamline the procedures, while still allowing the public to speak and comment as much as is desired. Bill DelGizzo suggests the council member not be the chair, Carolyn DiLeo clarifies that it is written in the by-laws that the council member must be the chair, and all agree. Bob Anderson begins discussion of the idea that chair doesn't vote unless there is a tie, it is noted votes are held on topics to be sent to the Council.

Bill DelGizzo comments that the committees have a role to support the District Manager and should coordinate with her about how best to be of assistance.

Committee Discussions:

Kelly Beach: Marlene suggests creating operating procedures, it's discussed what areas this would apply to and how it would possibly be maintained.

Bonnet Shores Beach Club: Carol O'Donnell addresses that she will attend Bonnet Shores Beach Club meetings as the liaison, and that all welcome to join are welcome. Bill DelGizzo addresses possible topics for future discussion with the BSBC.

Budget/ Finance: Anthony DeAngelis discusses roles this committee can fill, who can be a member (it is noted an employee cannot be a committee member), in what ways can the committee help the treasurer. Bob Anderson mentions the creation of internal controls.

Communications: Steve Danuszar asks how committee members are elected, Bob Anderson asks if you need to pay taxes to be a committee member, all agree that for the time being all committees will follow the rules in place at this time which states that one must be a property owner in order to become a committee member. Steve asks if the webmaster needs to be on the committee, all agree no and he should see who applies to be a committee member. Carolyn DiLeo asks for the creation of a weekly email blast, there is a discussion about the possible roles of email use.

Community Activities: Marlene Bellini says she talked to the social committee about participation.

By-Laws/ Charter/ Ordinances: Carolyn DiLeo plans to update for now and avoid the voting issue until the lawsuit is resolved. Looks to address ways to make things better without impacting charter issue, including was to improve the voting process.

History: Carolyn DiLeo refers to the handout description for clarification; purpose of this committee is to document, maintain and distribute a history of Bonnet and work with the library to house our documents and photos. Store all public documents, past, present, and future to make accessible and available. Bill DelGizzo discussed cloud storage and document accessibility, how to properly secure the District Manager's office (keyless entry?), and the need for security cameras in the facility. Bob Anderson makes suggestion for approaching the Rhode Island Foundation or the Champlin Foundation for funding e-doc storage/ maintenance.

Pond/ Harbor/ Little Beach: Bill DelGizzo explains Little Beach is going to go into Land Trust, and Harbor Committee will stand alone. Marlene clarifies that Pond & Little Beach will be under Land Trust. Anthony asks how the Council will be aware of Land Trust operations, Bill D. explains their chairman should attend Council meetings and provide a monthly report. There is a discussion about who should sit at the table during Council meetings, and how the Land Trust needs approval from the Council for funds requested. Council discusses detailing agenda items, making motions, and voting.

Traffic Safety, Security, Public Works, Facility & Traffic Committee: There is a discussion about priorities for the committee to address including traffic and pedestrian safety, causeway safety, how to enforce citations.

Adjournment
Carol O'Donnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:02pm, seconded by Bob Anderson.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Caldwell
Bonnet Shores Fire District Clerk