

Bonnet Shores Fire District

Monthly Meeting: Meeting Minutes

January 19 , 2021

7:30 PM

Zoom Meeting

Call To Order

Chair Carol O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 7:34pm. Council members in attendance included: Chair Carol O'Donnell, Vice Chair Marleen Bellini, Carolyn DiLeo, Steve Danuszar. Bob Anderson, and Anthony DeAngelis. Additional present were Treasurer Laurie McCarthy, Tax Collector Michelle Travis, Harbor Master Joe Bleczinski, and Clerk Stephanie Caldwell.

Pledge of Allegiance/ Moment of silence

The Assembly recited the Pledge and observed a moment of silence for members of the community that have passed.

Announcements: Procedure of Meeting

Chair O'Donnell outlined the meeting procedure. The host will mute all participants. If you wish to comment on an agenda item, please raise the reaction hand. Any inappropriate behavior may lead to participant removal by the host. When voting on motions please raise your action hand for the record.

Approval of Minutes: November 17, 2021, Carolyn DiLeo made a motion, Marleen Bellini seconded, passed unanimously. December 15 2021 Carolyn DiLeo made a motion to approve, Steve Danuszar seconded, passed unanimously.

Treasurer: Updated Financial Report

Treasurer Laurie McCarthy shared her report. Carolyn made a motion to approve that employees who file 1099s are full time employees, Anthony DeAngelis seconded, passed 6-0.

Tax Collector: Update - Collections

Michelle Travis shared her update. There is a discussion about addresses that tax letters are sent to.

Land Trust

There was no meeting held in December, the next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2022.

Harbor Master

Joe Bleczinski shared his report. Topics included:

- Kayak racks – discussion at bylaws meeting on 1-18, Joe has looked at a wood and steel, he likes the steel option, found some for \$900 or so each, says we need 2. Marleen asked about plastic options, Joe worries about durability and discusses.

- Labels for moorings, boats, launch ramp and watercraft on the beach. Has contacted 2 places for pricing, asks for \$250 budget – Carol makes a motion to approve budget for the labels, Steve 2nds, motion passes.
- Regulations and ordinances –
 - o Joe is going to enforce regulations that winter moorings must be in by Dec 1st, and summer moorings in by June 1st
 - o Boats less than 12 cannot permanently occupy a mooring, boats greater than 12 feet cannot occupy a permanent spot on the beach. – Joe suggests 14 feet as the option for boats on a mooring.
 - o State of RI requires anyone born after 1986 to pass boater operation test to operate a motor larger than 10 hp – wants to make this part of the requirements for mooring registration.
 - o Anthony discusses mooring field regulations - #6 pg 13 – harbormaster may grant temp use of a ball to a person on the waiting list – Anthony’s concern is that people may be able to dodge wait list by finding temporary use year after year. Joe says the intention is to give someone on the list who has a boat the option to use our harbor for 1 year – Anthony clarifies we do not hold mooring vacancies intentionally – Anthony questions if that year of use to another person other than the owner give the ball owner a “grace year” of owning a mooring without having a registered boat on it – Joe feels that would not be the case because they would still be required to have a registered boat on that ball before the end of the year.
 - o Robert Anderson speaks in that he shares Anthony’s concerns, clarifies that the ball can be unused for 1 season, joe says yes.
 - o Carolyn speaks up that Joe is committed to enforcing the mooring owner occupation
 - o Nancy Cordy – issue of “renting”, asks if the person taking the mooring pays that year’s fees, Joe says it between the owner and the “renter”, asks if the harbormaster would be able to go down the wait list in order to offer a mooring “for rent”, h
 - o Roger Larson, 59 What Cheer Rd – mooring owner – discusses that he is having an issue with the company he’s using for mooring service - and has concerns about the waiting list idea, and the negative impacts that could have on owners. He points out that our harbor is not like a town marina
 - o Faith LaSalle – asks how the cost to use the mooring, the \$200 fee, is being tracked, has a problem with the fact that the money is not going to the BSFD, worries that an owner could charge large rent,
 - o Anthony makes a motion to remove #6, Carolyn seconds, passes 6-0
 - o Motion to approve the rest of the proposed ordinances submitted to the Council – the education regulation as required by the state, and the 14 feet for minimum length requirement for mooring length - are the only amendments. – Caroyln makes the motion, carol 2nds, passes 6-0

Old Business

- A. Legal Update – None
- B. Camp season for 2022 to be updated.
- C. Solicit bids to hire attorney/ paralegal for road ownership – work in progress.

- D. Suez Water Mains –
- E. Manager’s office to be locked at all times
- F. Establish an Annual Meeting Committee

New Business

- a. Recap of ByLaws meeting – last meeting reviewed ordinances 5-10. The February meeting is expected to finish all ordinance and finalize proposed changes to submit to the council.
- b. Permission to hunt on Land Trust/ FD Property - Carolyn DiLeo discusses her concerns and that she does not like the idea.
Lenny Mercier discusses the fact that to approve for one person is to approve for anyone that has a hunting license, and feels it is way too dangerous. Explains that the land trust will be voting on this, and they are not in favor.
Robert Anderson speaks.
George Monahan – worries about giving hunting approval opens the BSFD to liability and would like to see an ordinance passed to ban any and all hunting on Bonnet property.
Anita Langer – opposed to any hunting on Bonnet Shores property – land trust
Carol Fortin, Cross Road – strongly objects to any and all hunting in Bonnet Shores
Caroyln – motion to not permit and hunting of any nature on Bonnet property – Marleen 2nds, passes 6-0
- c. Community Center Updates - Generator to get maintenance
Volunteers, Steve Danuszar and Angelo Bellini cleaning and painting
Joan Pandetti – 3 Greenwich ave – question about forming an annual committee member – has an issue with the nominating committee members being allowed to be a part of the annual meeting committee
Carol responds to address that the intent was to improve the annual meeting process.
- d. MOTION TO MOVE TO CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws Section 42-46-5 (a) (1) pertaining to personal and appoint clerk as Clerk Pro Tem Zoom link sent to participants – Motion is Made by Carolyn DiLeo, 2nd by Marlee Bellini, unanimously passes.

Public Comment

Identify yourself with address, each person will have three minutes to speak, one time.
Due to a technical issue, there were no requests for public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting is adjourned at 9:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Caldwell
Bonnet Shores Fire District Clerk