

Little Beach Committee Meeting

March 23, 2021

7 pm

Meeting Recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/RQ9HNuhkECICyxI1ad5HGEpXNbOiUGTnv8ERqK63YSKOxUPQvIjDj0Zny59irr t.ZfZZzMVhHCop7SfE>

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm

In attendance: Janice McClanaghan, Anita Langer, Marlene Bellini, Bill DelGizzo

Approval of the March 3, 2021 meeting minutes. Anita made a motion to accept minutes, Marlene seconded. All approved.

Update on other Grant investigations

Bill has spoken with Wenley Ferguson and the Green Bond that was passed by the State Legislature will not be available to us until we have a plan in place. Dr. King is doing similar work for both Narragansett and North Kingstown but not as extensive as our plan proposed. Until we have a plan, funds from the grant will go to those communities who have a plan so the sooner we have a plan, the sooner we will be able to access funds from the Green bonds.

Other agenda items:

1. **update on surf rake proposal/alternatives**
2. **update on ramp**
3. **update on seaweed disposal**
4. **Discussion and vote to recommend to council committee's recommendation for cleaning Little Beach summer of 2021.**

Janice commented on Lisa's report, which was very thorough, and she updated us on Harry. Also attached to these minutes, is Lisa's entire report as it is very extensive with photos and issues about insurance, etc., both a review of what we've done as well as a proposal for cleaning the beach this summer from R. Barber Jr., Trucking.

Janice's notes about Harry:

Harry finally called me Sunday night at 8:30 pm after my calls. He told me was still interested and we talked about a few items.

1. I asked him why his first proposal was \$24000 (est) and then he agreed to \$12,000 and then back to \$24,000. He said his equipment is like \$45,000 and he knows it will need serious maintenance after the summer.

2. We talked about hauling the seaweed and he asked me about getting patriot to give us a dumpster and then haul it after being filled. I told him that that was unlikely to happen. He tried calling a friend of his who hauls, that was unsuccessful.
 3. I told him about the issues with our insurance and liability for us hiring a driver etc so the next night at 9:45 he called me to tell me he was going to look into a dump trailer which can hold 5-7 tons of seaweed. We decided he would have to make it part of his proposal.
 4. The next day (8:09)pm he called me to tell me the cost of the driver (separate from the driver of the rake) and the cost of the (2) rotating dump trailers and transportation of them since he felt if one got filled the driver could go dump and he could still keep working was \$18000. That cost does Not include the cost if we have to bring it to the dump. Which according to the dump –it is \$100 a ton.
 5. The second driver and trailer would be on the boat ramp so if a boat needed to get in or out , the trailer could be moved. The other trailer would be parked on King Philip.
 6. Harry is hiring a competitor that is retiring to run the rake and another person to drive the pickup and dump trailer.
 7. I also sent him the drone overview which he found extremely helpful. He was able to show it the the guy he is hiring and see the lay of the land. I also sent him the letter we sent to landscapers so he knew what licenses he would need and insurance. He would have to get a R I business license. He has all the marine licenses et.
 8. I also sent him the 3 types of ramps/mats. He thought the yak ramp might work. We would need 2 of them ,but I need to find out the exact sizes to get a price. That is also a fire district expenses.
- This brought the committee up to date on Harry.

The following is the proposal from Harry Plaut:

The H.S.Plaut environmental Company will supply equipment needed to remove seaweed from the 2 beaches at Bonnet Shores. A tractor of size to run the beach with a barber beach cleaning machine either a 400 or 600 model ,2 dump trailers and truck to haul trailers. There will be a minimum of 2 men required to complete the removal of seaweed. .H S Plaut will haul seaweed to Bonnet Shores designated area and dump, Bonnet Shores is responsible for the dump fees. HSPlaut carries w/c insurance,commercial auto,liability, and marine insurance, for the water related activities.If the company is hired ,we will give a detailed contract featuring,scope of work,expectations for the complete season , and all other requirements and any other information.

If this year is successful, we would offer a 3 year contract at the same rate.

The price based on 60-65 days of the season \$42,000.00

Please note I have had numerous conversations,texts,emails,videos,visited the sight and am prepared to do this, so if you plan to give us the job our contract will be extensive covering this unique cleaning of your beaches.

The committee reviewed the proposal from Barber which is attached to these minutes

The Barber proposal is for \$62,000 for 62 days or \$35,000 for 35 days. He will purchase and maintain the equipment needed and will remove the seaweed. Unless we need to pay dump fees, there will be no additional cost to us. We must commit to him 35 days, any days we need. There will likely be some additional cost for additional truckloads of seaweed depending on the amount of seaweed.

Anita commented on both proposals:

Harry's final proposal is \$42,000 for 62 days and he will not consider fewer days. We still need to remove the seaweed. He would use the truck trailer to haul to designated location. Also he will come only on the designated days but will not be flexible in that schedule.

After additional discussion several comments were made with regard to the Barber proposal:

- Carolyn suggested that we need to include additional \$ in the budgets for haulage fees for seaweed..
- Janice and Bill also commented he is local, we have past experience with Barber and he appears to be the best option.
- Anita agreed and suggested we go with Barber, adding \$ for potential haulage fees. Reminder, we have the ability to borrow money if needed.
- This also avoids any need to build ramps nor do we need to buy/lease a dump truck.

Anita made a motion that we recommend to the Council that the District accept the Barber proposal for 35 days at \$35,000 and set aside an additional \$5000 for seaweed haulage fees for the 2021 season. Bill seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

Bill thanked both Janice and Lisa for all the work they have done to bring this information to the committee and coming up with a solution to the problem.

Public comment:

- Anita said it was a good year to work on this project and it looks like a good solution with options to tweak as needed.
- Anne Marie Natale- applauded everyone for all the work and that it should help many more people to use the beach, including the boaters.
- Bill asked about stairs that we will be able to build and can they be removed at the end of the season. Lisa confirmed that is the plan.
- Bill also commented that this committee has been an open forum for residents to ask questions and make comments.

Anita made a motion to adjourn, Marlene seconded. All agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm