

Little Beach Committee Meeting
March 3, 2021
7 pm

Meeting Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/SYiYMXYZqO192X_jJIS98ZIQ8fVviswYVGpQBMxv06E2ZSGSTVdF8ssdyFoKHE6o.oIEUbKKtuZ4XgPUS

Attendees: Anita Langer, Marlene Bellini, Bill DelGizzo, Janice McClanaghan

Zoom participants: 24

Janice called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Approval of the minutes: Anita made a motion to approve the minutes of February 10, Marlene seconded. All approved who were in attendance.

Anthony Salvatore arrived at 7:10 pm

Agenda:

RIEMA/FEMA grant- committee to recommend project to the BSFD council subject to Federal funding

Janice explained that the committee had not formally approved the submission of the grant application and that the committee had not recommended to the Council that they approve submission. Two motions were made to correct this issue.

1. Bill DelGizzo made a motion that the committee submit the grant application to RIEMA/FEMA for the completion of a study by Dr. King of URI. Anita seconded the motion.
Approved: Bill DelGizzo, Anita Langer, Janice Mc Clanaghan
Abstained: Marlene Bellini
Absent: Anthony Salvatore
2. Bill DelGizzo made a motion that the committee recommend to the BSFD Council that they include in the 2021-2022 budget the matching funds required in the grant not funded by RIEMA/FEMA, subject to federal funding. Anita seconded the motion
Approved: Bill DelGizzo, Anita Langer, Janice McClanaghan
Abstained: Marlene Bellini
Absent: Anthony Salvatore

At a prior meeting a resident had asked if Dr. King had done projects of this nature previously. Bill has not contacted him but will do so.

Update on other grant investigations

Bill reported that yesterday, a Green Bond issue was passed by the voters of RI and that perhaps there will be funds available in a year to support some of our efforts. Anita suggested that we contact them to see if any funds are available now. Carolyn suggested we contact officials to see if these Green bond

funds could be used for clean up of Little Beach. Bill will contact Save the Bay to inquire about fund availability.

Update on Surf Rake proposals, Ramp and seaweed disposal

Janice indicated there are few things going on that are intermingled so reviewed what's been happening.

We were given the name of Cherington Beach Cleaner & Mobile Screener and both Janice and Anthony have had discussions with them. The original price of the equipment was quoted at \$45,000. Before we commit to purchase we need to be sure it is adequate. Lisa did a drone overview of Little Beach for them and based on that he felt this equipment would be insufficient. This is due in part to:

1. Amount of seaweed
2. Insufficient horsepower
3. The pick up blade has only a 5 inch clearance and presents a problem with the ramp.

He then recommended a larger unit, the cost \$92,000.

Janice suspended talks with him until after our meeting on 2/10/21.

Anthony has also attempted to contact the landscaper M & S Landscaping we had been in discussions with since last fall whether he would work in concert with other parties. Still waiting to hear back.

Janice has also been trying to get Harry to come up with firm price and scope of work. After more discussion Harry has revised his quote to \$24,000 from \$12,000. His reasons are not entirely clear but he claims this job will require him to replace/repair damaged equipment caused by nature of the beach. His price is firm at \$24,000 and seems very reluctant to commit to the job.

Janice suggested we review other issues and come back to this.

She has had discussions again with CRMC; in particular moving of rocks to accommodate the ramp and using a mat. CRMC agreed to moving rocks but would need to replace at the end of the season. GEO Systems did not think mats would work due to the rocky shore. She also spoke with United Rental but their mats are too small. She called GEO Systems again to ask if rocks were moved would mats be workable and she is still waiting to hear back.

Questions: Anita asked if Harry can do the job without the ramp. Answer. No we still need to build a ramp,

Anita reviewed the initial proposal from Harry for 138 days at \$24,000 and then the reduction to 62 days which reduced the quote to \$12,000 so he is returning to the original quote but it appears that he is factoring in the demand on his equipment. This price also does not include his labor costs.

Bill doesn't think we should own any equipment. The cost, maintenance, etc. etc so suggested we have two alternatives:

1. Harry, Or
2. Lease equipment: a larger tractor to supplement our current equipment and a dump truck and hire an operator to do the job. We would have the District Manager oversee the job.

Multiple committee members raised concerns about Harry and his desire to do the job.

Bill reminded the committee that the council should consider how important it is to maintain this area for our residents and our property values. Recent sales and values for property far away from the beach continue to rise.

Anthony still maintains that Harry is our best option at this point.

Anita reminded us that Harry came highly recommended and that his price is reasonable to do the job.

After more discussion it was decided to pursue the two alternatives.

1. Harry will be given until March 17, 2021 to present a firm proposal and scope of work
2. Lisa will make inquiries of the Narragansett Highway Dept about sources for the leasing of
 - a. Tractor/back hoe larger than current equipment
 - b. Dump truck
 - c. Referrals for an operator

Lisa said she would do her best to accumulate the information by the 17th. Bill gave her guidance on what to ask.

All information received will be distributed to the committee in advance of the meeting so they can review and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

Discussion and vote to recommend to council committee's recommendation for cleaning Little Beach.

It was decided to table this until our next meeting.

Public Comment

None

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 7 pm

Marlene made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Anita. All approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn DiLeo