

**Bonnet Shores Fire District**  
*Monthly Meeting Minutes*  
*May 17, 2023 7:30 PM*  
*130 Bonnet Shores Road, Narragansett, RI 02882*  
*Zoom*

**Call To Order**

Steve Danuszar acting as subchair called the meeting to order at 7:37pm. Council members in attendance included: Anthony DeAngelis, Carolyn DiLeo and Bill DelGizzo. Additional present were Treasurer Laurie McCarthy and Clerk Stephanie Caldwell.

**Pledge of Allegiance/ Moment of silence**

The Assembly recited the Pledge and held a moment of silence.

**Urgent Business**

None.

**Announcements: Procedure of Meeting**

Mark has been working with Carol to coordinate with the offender's insurance company and the district's insurance company. Carolyn asks if estimates are being gathered, and requests at least 3 estimates. Laurie clarifies that the RI Interlocal Trust has requested that the original mason be used. Bill DelGizzo comments that he knows this mason personally and has talked with him, and said that he expects the process to involve submitting an estimate.

Carolyn comments that she has reached out to Rep. McEntee about the timeline and process for the Charter amendments and is awaiting a response.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion to approve the February 2023 minutes as amended for spelling errors with Attorney Conelly's name are made by Carolyn, seconded by Anthony DeAngelis, motion passes unanimously.

A motion to approve the April 2023 minutes as amended for any spelling errors was made by Carolyn, seconded by Anthony DeAngelis, motion passes unanimously.

**Treasurer: Updated Financial Report**

Laurie McCarthy shared her report. Working with bookkeeper Rose to button up Monday & Wednesday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm and May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm budget meetings scheduled for the Council discussion; public audience is welcomed but will not participate. Anthony & Steve are unable to attend both of these meetings due to work scheduling conflicts.

Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am for public discussion and vote.

Laurie comments on the actual charges of lawyer fees on the BSFD record, are \$10,000.00, not over \$100,000.00 as has been rumored.

Laurie comments on necessary capital expenditures with the community center that will be discussed at the upcoming budget meetings.

Mark comments of some other capital expenditure suggestions, such as resealing the parking lot and repainting the stripes. He will send along a letter to Anthony and the rest of the council for consideration.

**Tax Collector: Update**

None at this time.

**Land Trust: Update**

Steve comments that the Land Trust has been working on signage for the pond. Laurie and Paul McCarthy have volunteered to do the water sampling of the pond for 2023. Bill DelGizzo comments on the progress with

### **Communications Committee: Update**

Steve comments that Steve Ryder is looking to pass the torch on for the responsibility of sending the district e-mail blasts. He also comments that he may reach out to the webmaster, Linda, to discussion page navigation ideas.

### **District Manager: Report**

Mark shared his report. He has been in communication with 3 mooring inspection companies. The water mains have been turned on at both Kelly and Little Beaches. He comments on the beach tag program, and asks for input on the quantity to order, and the numbering to use. Carolyn comments that at the last meeting the motion was approved to proceed with the same process that is in place, and that steps need to be taken to get an order in. She comments that it would be good to get more than one price option. Carolyn and Mark agree to meet tomorrow or the next day to discuss options and move forward.

Weekend and holiday security and shuttle services & dates are in place.

Currently Mark has received applications from 5 lifeguards that are scheduled to be certified for the 2023 season. Hiring and scheduling to be in place in June.

Little Beach cleanup, Mark comments that he has received 3 quotes from 4 companies contacted, one company declined to quote. Mark makes his recommendation to the council to hire Perfect Touch Landscaping. He comments on their recommendation from DEM, the quality and type of their equipment, and other influencing factors in his decision. There is a discussion about past expenses on Little Beach cleanup.

Carolyn makes a motion to accept the bid from Perfect Touch Landscaping, for the terms of \$4,000.00 for the initial cleanup and bi-weekly maintenance to include removing seaweed at low tide, pushing it out to sea and grading out the beach; the contract term of \$400.00 per hour rate for trucking removal will be discussed and approved before using. Bill DelGizzo seconds, motion passes unanimously.

### **New Business**

#### **A. Harbor Master Position Opening**

- a. Mark comments; he is strongly in favor of a Harbormaster being hired, he also strongly feels that this person should have a strong background in administrative work (skills including excel, collecting and cashing checks, accurate record keeping, etc.).
- b. Carolyn comments that she feels the position should only be filled by someone without ties to the district.
- c. Bill asks Mark if he would agree to continue filling in for the position through the 2023 season, there is a discussion about the workload
- d. Bill makes a motion to postpone the posting of a Harbormaster position until the fall of 2023, seconded by Carolyn, motion passes unanimously

#### **B. Camp 2023 Update**

- a. Everything is on schedule for a great season
- b. Carolyn makes a comment that the community center should have cameras installed for safety, security and liability.

#### **C. By-Laws Update**

#### **D. Kelly Beach**

- a. There is a discussion about the idea for a roll out mat similar to the one at the end of the beach near the Wesquage neighborhood.
- b. There is a discussion of getting quotes for contracted beach cleanings, given that the BSBC will no longer be cleaning the estuary "in kind".

### **Public Comment**

*Please come up to the microphone, identify yourself with address, 3 minutes to speak. If you are on zoom you must turn your video on to be identified.*

Laurie McCarthy comments that expenses for Little Beach clean up will need to be brought up by the council at the upcoming budget meetings so that cleanings can be budgeted for.

Janice McClanahan comments on the logistics of cleaning Little Beach. There is a discussion about new ideas for stairs and other things to consider, to help with the seaweed issue.

Tony Lupino comments on the proposed method for cleaning Little Beach as accepted by the council tonight, and questions the efficacy. He also comments that he thinks the Harbor Master position should be filled now, not in the fall as accepted.

Louise Healy from the BSBC board of directors comments on the topic of the estuary. She mentions a bill will be issued for each \$1,500.00 cleaning that has been done since the end of last summer. She comments that the Beach Club is willing to provide this service for free, as long as a consent agreement can be reached regarding pending litigation regarding trash removal. Carolyn replied that she would like to arrange a meeting between the BSBC and the BSFD, everyone is in agreement that they would like to be able to move forward with meetings as soon as possible.

Robert Patterson comments on repairing the entrance way sign & masonry. He comments on the idea of installing the reflective pieces that inlay in the road, and the idea of have the stripes repainted on the roads. He comments that the district should not need to be concerned over getting quotes for the offender's insurance company. He comments on the idea of Bonnet Days; there has not been much volunteer interest, there has been some discussion

Paulette Russo, asks if Mark will be compensated for his participation as the Harbormaster for the 2023 year.

David Kaufman comments on the website navigation and discusses that inactive categories/ committees should be removed.

Stephanie Caldwell comments that there is a list of active committies, and she will get that to Linda and Dave.

Faith LaSalle comments on the repair quote work being done by Mark, and also feels that it is unnecessary for him to do.

Paula Childs comments on the needed repairs for safety and liability, including the parking lot.

Carol Fortin comments that in the past Bonnet Days has been very successful, though she feels a road race should not be held. She comments that there was one meeting for the social committee over the past few years, and she thinks there is a good amount of interest from families in the community for social events and Bonnet Days.

Carolyn asks for public volunteers for a "Welcome Summer" party at the community center on Wednesday June 7, 2023 at 6:00pm,

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 8:56pm by Caroyln, seconded by Steve, passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Caldwell  
Bonnet Shores Fire District Clerk