

September 12, 2011

The Waterfront Commission held a regular meeting on this date at the Town Dock meeting room. Members present were Sandy Grimes, Chairman; Ethan Grimes, Secretary/Treasurer; Mike Grimshaw and Stephanie Hayes-Houlihan. Selectwoman McAnanly and residents were also present. Arthur Medeiros and Randy Minor were absent.

Chairman Grimes called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Previous minutes

Mr. E. Grimes made a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting as presented. Mr. Grimshaw seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Houlihan made a motion to accept the Treasurers report as read. The balance in the WFC account is \$1000.00. Mr. Grimshaw seconded and voting was unanimous.

Old Business

Dock Area housekeeping – Mr. Grimshaw reported that there was storm damage to the observation platform. They are currently waiting to hear from the Town regarding FEMA funds.

Maintenance items – Mr. Grimshaw briefly discussed the electrical issue with the Pump out station. It appears that the electrician had made an error with the tie in. He added that Joe Bragaw, Facilities Director is aware of the situation.

Donahue Park – Nothing to report.

Dog Park – Mr. Grimes introduced the WFC members to the 29 residents present. These residents were here to show their support for the property adjacent to the Pump out station to remain as is. Michael Blair said that they are concerned because the gate has been locked several times and is now locked open.

Mr. Grimes stated that the WFC unanimously approved preserving the park area as it is based on research and wide borough support at its July 2010 meeting. WFC members have since had numerous discussions, meetings with and polling of residents, correspondence in support of the park and visited the area. After continuous and ongoing complaints of a few neighbors abutting the park area almost 50 residents were present in March 2011 along with the First Selectman to discuss

further. The July decision stood without change and the members asked the First Selectman to allow the Waterfront Commission to continue to oversee this matter.

Chairman Grimes added that the First Selectman has continued to receive harassing emails so he has asked the Town Attorney on how to proceed. Mr. Grimes added that to the best of his knowledge, the Town Attorney and the attorney for the complainants have met and that is where the decision to lock the gate originated. At this time the residents stated that they want to be sure a deal isn't made between the attorneys without their input and as the First Selectman offered at the March meeting would like a Town meeting to resolve this matter.

Selectwoman McAnanly stated that she wanted to attend the meeting to get feedback from the residents and added that they are welcome to attend a Selectmen's meeting to let their concerns be heard.

Several residents spoke reiterating their discomfort at the escalating harassment from the complainants while visiting the park area. They also agreed to the cooperation and respect shown by all using the park area.

Chairman Grimes thanked the residents for attending. (list available from clerk)

Mrs. Houlihan made a motion that the July 12, 2010 decision stand without change. Mr. E. Grimes seconded the motion and voting was unanimous.

New Business - Nothing to report.

Correspondence - Nothing to report.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. E. Grimes made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Houlihan seconded the motion and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**Ethan Grimes
Vice Chair/Treasurer**

lp