

Town of Guilford Marina Commission Special Meeting, May 4, 2016 7:00 PM at Town Hall

Members present: Roger Celesk, Bernard Lombardi, Charles Detelich, Hank Graver
Excused: Fred Brisbois and Cliff McGuire
Others: Rod McLennan, Dock Master

Meeting was called to order by Hank Graver Chairman at 7:00 pm.

1. Discussion of the Tide Gauge

Chairman, Hank Graver told the Commission that he and Rod McLennan meet with the 1st Selectman, Joe Mazza on April 11, 2016 and felt the Commission should meet to discuss the results of the meeting.

Hank expressed that the 1st Selectman feels the Marina Commission is wealthy. During the discussion, the 1st selectman phoned the Finance Director, Sheila Villano who offered to allocate \$3,000.00 which was FEMA administrative fees be redirected toward the Tide Gauge costs.

Chairman, Hank Graver, read a proposed letter to the Commission Members for the 1st Selectman. There was discussion over the wording of the letter and modifications were made. There was discussion on where future dredging spoils can be dumped. If deep water disposal is required, it is costly and the cost of dredging will substantially go up.

Sally Berezowskyj, recording secretary, read Fred Brisbois comments forwarded before the meeting to the Commission:

- Despite the meeting the Chairman and Dockmaster had with the 1st Selectman, the 14 April 2016 letter the commission approved should still be delivered to the 1st Selectman for all the reasons discussed at our April meeting.
- It is important to have a documented trail of the Marina Commission's position on financial matters. Earlier this year, the members of the Marina Commission were unanimous in a position that a letter be sent to the 1st Selectman regarding funding the porta-potties. As is the case with the 14 April letter, that letter was never sent either.
- The issue regarding the tide gauge is larger than the cost. The bigger concern is the principal of the Town dictating to the Marina Commission how to spend the funds we are required to manage. This is highly inappropriate and warrants review by legal.
- The tide gauge is redundant with the information currently available with equipment the Dockmaster already has and which many boaters have via a free app.
- The tide gauge is not predictive thus it provides no actionable information that enhances the safety of Town Residents. It merely collects data and sends it to a Government agency for their use and they charge the Town \$7,500.00 a year.
- Given the current Town budget situation and uselessness of the tide gauge, the contract for the tide gauge should be immediately terminated.
- If forced to continue providing any funding for the tide gauge, we should advise the boaters whose funds we manage to allow them an opportunity to individually advise the Selectman's office of their opinion.

Motion: Upon motion made by Charles Detelich and seconded by Bernard Lombardi, the Commission voted unanimously to send the amended letter to the 1st Selectman.

In Favor: Bernard Lombardi
 Charles Detelich
 Henry Graver
 Roger Celesk

Motion: Upon motion made by Charles Detelich and seconded by Bernard Lombardi, the Commission voted unanimously to reject the \$3,000.00 offer as inappropriate use of funds.

In Favor: Bernard Lombardi
 Charles Detelich
 Henry Graver
 Roger Celesk

2. Adjournment

Motion: Upon motion by Bernard Lombardi and seconded by Charles Detelich the Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the Marina Commission meeting at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sally J. Berezowskyj
Recording Secretary

DRAFT