

WIA Closing Meeting Minutes

Saturday, August 27, 2022

Bridgewater Town Hall

Meeting called to order by President Will Fullerton at 10:09 am.

Quorum established as approximately 120 members were in attendance.

President's report by Will Fullerton:

- Thank you to the officers who served this past term.
- Thank you to the beach crew.
- Thank you to all who helped at the beach BBQ, kids' coordinator, Karen and Tina, trash crew.
- A moment of silence was called in memory of 2 members who recently passed away: Chuck Shipulsky and Tony Strycharz. Also acknowledged the passing of family of members: Beth Bonaccorsi's mother, Chris Stevens' mother, Trish Piazza's mother. Diane reminded all that the practice of WIA is to send a memorial contribution to NRLA for members who pass away.

Vice President's report by Joan Dobbins

- Raft ladder has broken twice this summer, unable to repair it, last replaced in 2019. Chris Dyer will seek out a replacement. Budget is \$600, motion carried by majority.
- Broken fences. Estimate to repair the leaning stockade fence and gate plus the 2 broken rails on the post & rail fence is \$2700; this includes 2 extra pieces as "back up." Estimate to replace the stockade fence with one made of plastic/PVC will cost \$5500, this does not include replacing the 2 broken rails. Other options include tearing the stockade fence down or doing nothing. The majority voted to replace the fence with the white plastic/PVC material. Member (Jay) says he can get the 2 rails for the border fence.
- Joan thanked Will for his work as President.
- Joan researched the meaning behind Robert Bent's name on the WIA beach lot on the town's tax map website; it's there to indicate a contact person for the town e.g. if an abutter to the beach lot needed to notify WIA about property issues. It was suggested that the President be the town's contact. The next President will manage this.
- Thank you to Chris Stevens for updating and maintaining the WIAbeach.com web site.

Old Business

- By laws revisions. Joan stated that the work group did not have any recommendations to present to the membership yet; there are many issues to be considered regarding membership and who is eligible to vote. Discussion included what our current Bylaws state, what NH state statutes require and whether to allow more than one vote based upon number of lots owned. Motion to table any further By laws discussion, motion carries.

Treasurer's report by Diane Farrah-Smith:

- Balance sheet was handed out. Diane states that we are financially strong. Motion to approve Treasurer's report made and approved.

Secretary's report.

- A motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of the June Opening Meeting minutes. Tony asked that there be discussion and pointed out 2 errors: the increase in the mooring fee is \$175 to \$225; and the By Laws require a majority not a 2/3 vote to approve changes. These corrections will be made in the June 2022 minutes. Discussion included Tony asking about NH statutes (NH RSA 292) which appear to require certain organizations to have a 2/3 majority vote to change their By Laws; suggested an attorney's advice on this. Motion to approve the minutes with the corrections was seconded and approved.

New Business.

- Will brought up the need to re-grade the parking lot and to repair the culverts and swales to improve water drainage at the beach. Discussion included the what the town's responsibility is for maintaining the culverts along Shore Dr S. Motion was made to budget \$10,000 for the project and an ongoing budget of \$5000 per year to maintain the parking lot and drainage culverts/swales. This was seconded. Discussion included Diane stating that we hold off on the \$5000 per year because we don't know what our finances will look like in advance. The motion was amended to approve a \$10,000 budget for parking lot and culvert project which passed.

Mooring Coordinator's report by Tony Bonaccorsi:

- Tony asks that all boats must be removed from the mooring field by October 2nd.
- Tony states that Dustin Whitaker asked to appeal his removal from the mooring list but because he wasn't present, this was not acted upon.
- Tony made a motion to increase annual mooring fee from \$175 to \$225 which was seconded and approved. It was stated that if the new mooring regulations are approved later in the meeting, this increase would be null and void.

New Business continued.

- Tony asked about NH statute RSA 292 which covers Association's By Laws changes and brings up the change that took place in 2019 in which the Beach Rules were dropped from the By Laws. Discussion ensued. Another Member made a Point of Order that the By Laws discussion had been tabled earlier.
- Tony asked who is responsible for keeping records of the Association. It was unclear who is responsible.

Election of Executive Board

- Will announced that Karen Simula had agreed to run for President. The motion for Karen Simula to be President was passed by show of hands.
- Joan announced the balance of the slate as: Joan Dobbins for Vice President; Diane Farraher-Smith for Treasurer; Carol Clark for Secretary. Karen Simula then nominated Lyle Brown for Vice President. By a show of hands, the Treasurer's and Secretary's offices were passed. Diane then conducted a vote between Joan Dobbins and Lyle Brown. A count of hands made Joan the winner with 67 votes and Lyle with 33.

New Business continued.

- Revision of Mooring Regulations. Bruce Couture made the motion that we accept the Proposed Mooring Regulations changes that had been mailed, emailed and were available on the Sign-in table. These changes allowed for the initiation of a “rotation.” Bruce’s motion was seconded. Joan then made a sub motion that members can vote at any time, indicating the ballot box on the front table. She explained how to utilize the paper ballots that were given to Members as they entered. The sub motion was seconded and approved by a majority. Discussion about the main motion ensued. [Amendment to minutes offered at Closing Meeting August 19, 2023: Tony Bonaccorsi claims a motion ‘to table’ was made. The President did not hear it. It was not acted upon.] The President Will Fullerton called the vote. The ballots were counted by Tina Fullerton and John Dobbins and this was witnessed by Janine Tiomkin, Diane Farragher-Smith, Mike Coscia, Joan Dobbins, and Ellen Douville. The motion passed with a total of 120 votes cast: 71 in favor and 49 opposed.
- Beach rules: a member asked that we extend the evening hours on the beach. A motion to start “dog hours” at 6 pm failed but a motion for 7 pm passed with a majority.
- Next year’s meeting dates set: June 24, 2023 for the Opening meeting and August 26, 2023 for the Closing/Annual Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:07 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Janine Tiomkin, Secretary