

# Westbrook Council of Beaches

## Minutes

May 3, 2019

The Westbrook Council of Beaches (WCOB) meeting was called to order by President Pat Marcarelli at 7:00 P.M.

The following people were in attendance:

|                   |                                    |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Pat Marcarelli    | President                          |
| Mary Jane Monahan | Vice President                     |
| Steven Smith      | Treasurer                          |
| Janice Shaw       | Coral Sands                        |
| Ted Budney        | Sagamore Terrace                   |
| Don Carlson       | Sagamore Terrace                   |
| Ed Gales          | District of Chapman Beach          |
| Marie Palma       | West Beach                         |
| Tony Fastaia      | Pilots Point Assoc.                |
| Diane Ammerman    | Grove Beach Improvement Assoc.     |
| Amy Palumbo       | Middle Beach                       |
| Micheal Tossetti  | Grove Beach Terrace                |
| Tony Cozza        | Island View Beach Assoc.           |
| Steven Smith      | Island View Beach Assoc.           |
| Sal Campailla     | Middle Beach                       |
| Andy Calderoni    | Chapman Beach                      |
| Carolyn Fish      | Old Kelsey Pt. Hill & Beach Assoc, |
| Dave Borg         | Old Kelsey Pt. Hill & Beach Assoc. |
| Lynn Masson       | Old Kelsey Pt. Hill & Beach Assoc. |
| Steve Mason       | Stannard Beach                     |
| Gary Bazzano      | Grove Beach Point                  |
| Joe Marino        | Island View Beach Assoc.           |
| Tom & Lucy Nobile | Potina Beach                       |

Before the regular business meeting began, First Selectman Noel Bishop and Sid Holbrook gave an update on the jetty replacement project. Mr. Bishop described the Town's budget process that begins in December. In this year's Five-Year Capital Budget Plan, \$200,000 was originally earmarked to repair/replace 2 jetties

per year for the next 4 years. These jetties are located along Seaside Ave. from the Elks to the Town Beach. This amount was reduced to \$100,000 for the first year to repair/replace one jetty. The feeling was to see what was involved with one jetty so Public Works would have a better idea what was involved and the costs that would be incurred.

Mr. Holbrook gave a history of the jetties which were installed between 1960-62 by the Army Corps of Engineers. He explained that in order to begin the jetty project, a permit called a Certificate of Permission (COP) needs to be obtained from DEEP. Also, an engineer needs to be hired. Three have been interviewed and it was now down to two. Their estimates all came in under \$10,000. The Board of Selectmen will meet with them on June 6 to decide which one to hire. It usually takes 45 days for a COP to be issued and it is good for 5 years. Hopefully, work on the jetty deemed to be in the worst condition will begin after Labor Day. Mr. Holbrook has worked with DEEP in the past. The jetties have saved the beaches from erosion.

In other news, the Army Corps of Engineers will be dredging the Patchogue River. There will be a meeting on June 4, 2019 at 10:00 at the Club House at Pilot's Point to discuss the dredging. Our President will attend.

Concerns about the Duck Island jetties' deterioration were voiced.

Middle Beach brought up concerns about their beach erosion problems.

Grove Beach Point discussed their COP.

Mr. Bishop explained the new police set up. There is one less State Trooper, but the Town now has 8 part-time constables and one full-time constable who will work the night shift.

President Marcarelli asked what the cost of a speed machine was and Mr. Bishop said \$3500. Some beach associations have asked if the Town would consider splitting the cost with an association 50/50. Mr. Bishop will look into this request. Middle Beach had bought a speed machine, but stated no police enforcement took place.

Lastly President Marcarelli asked about proposed zoning changes that include changing areas in Pilots Point from boating to residential. This is of concern to the

Council. What would the tax implications be? There will be a Town meeting on July 9, 2019 to discuss these changes. Try to attend.

The business meeting began at 7:35 PM.

Officers in attendance were President Pat Marcarelli, Vice President Mary Jane Monahan and Treasurer Steve Smith. Secretary Paul Ireland was absent.

Treasurer's report: We have \$6395.17 in the savings account and \$2,489.69 in the checking account. Notices for WCOB dues have been sent out to the presidents of each association. Report was accepted and can be viewed on the website.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from May were accepted without being read. They will be posted on our website.

Committee reports:

Alleviating Hunger: Tony Cozza reported the Oxford Academy held a successful fundraiser. There will be a Stuff a Cruiser with Food event on July 6, 2019 on the Town Green from 9 AM – 3 PM. He also asked that donations for the St. Mark Food Pantry be brought to the church on Mondays between 9 and noon when the staff is stocking the shelves. Volunteers are needed to work the garden at the Valley Shore YMCA.

Traffic: Tony Fastiaia reported that the Commission meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall.

Energy: Bill Fish reported that all the street lights in town have been replaced with LED's, a savings of \$70,000 a year to the Town. There is a virtual net meter in Somers, CT where we get electricity from at the cost of 9 cents/kwh . There are 5 meters in Town. There is also a 25-year lease on solar panels with a company called Trinity.

Nominating Committee: We are looking for a volunteer to replace Carolyn Fish who has stepped down due to other commitments. We need to elect a president and a Secretary at the August meeting. Steve Mason is currently on the committee.

Scholarship Committee: Joe Marino worked with the Westbrook High School Guidance Department and a winner of our \$500 scholarship has been chosen: Ingrid Bowman. Congratulations!

Harbor Commission: Andy Calderoni reported that this year the new Harbormaster Harry Plaut is stressing education and compliance with beach mooring guidelines. All moorings need to be registered (\$20). Green stickers for moorings must be visibly displayed on the mooring. There will be a registration session on June 13 at 5:30 PM at the Town Hall to obtain permits. After July 15, the Commission will start removing derelict moorings at the owner's expense. It will cost \$145 to get a pulled rigging back. If your mooring is 3 feet below the surface at low tide, you need a pyramid or a spiral. Next year, full enforcement will take place for non-compliance.

Old/Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Sagamore Terrace inquired about log removal from private beaches.

Note: Members in attendance enjoyed the Meet and Greet held prior to the meeting and agreed we should do it again. A big thank you to Pat and Lore Marcarelli for shopping and setting it up!

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Next meeting: July 1, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Vice President Mary Jane Monahan in Paul Ireland's absence