

TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN



WATERFRONT ADVISORY COMMISSION

Thursday, May 2, 2024

7:00 P.M.

Neighborhood Guild

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm at the Neighborhood Guild.

2. Roll Call

Present: S. Grimley, B. Gross, C. Duckworth, S. Smith, N. Merrill

Absent: M. Sherry, J. Nuzzolillo

Staff present: M. Stach Staff Absent:

Guests: Craig Wood, Ted Monahan

3. Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve April 4, 2024 meeting minutes by B. Gross and seconded by S. Grimley. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

4. Correspondence and Public Comment

5. Old Business

A. Marina Park Boat Ramp Project – Status Report

M. Stach reported the town is still waiting for New England Building and Bridge to install outstanding stainless-steel railing, remove pile of stone in water at end of ramp and fix list to dock at gangway.

B. Harbor Management Plan Update

Draft has been submitted to CRMC for initial review. Currently the plan is under review by RIDEM and CRMC. No new updates.

C. Public Right-of Way Access at Locations 10 and 11. Re: Boats and Waterways Ordinance 4-14: Rights-of-Way to the Water – Boat Storage

PA Site 10: Washington Street, Location: Matunuck, Water Area: Segar Cove, Assessor's Plat: 87-4, Recorded Plat: LE34 / 78

PA Site 11: Lake Avenue, Location: Matunuck, Water Area: Segar Cove, Assessor's Plat: 87-4, Recorded Plats: LE33 / 416, PB6 / 436, and PB7 / 487

Members continue to discuss ordinance draft regarding boat storage at ROWs. They will continue to work on it.

D. Boats and Waterways Ordinance Revisions

Members are reviewing the Boat and Waterways Ordinance to discuss any changes that may need to be proposed.

E. Coastal Road and Public Right-of Way to the Water Survey and Monumentation; Charlestown Beach Road Survey Status

M. Stach provided an update. Current plans are underway to have bid documents prepared for new fiscal year (July 1) so that newly allocated capital funding for the new fiscal year can be utilized to complete this project.

F. State Legislative Session 2024 Update

Discussion about the multiple coastal access bills introduced this session. They were held for further study including the houseboat legislation. A legislative commission was created to study beach erosion.

6. New Business

A. (REVISED) CRMC Public Notice File No. 2023-11-073– Assent Application to construct and maintain a residential boating facility with ramps, pier, and float. – Amy Tourangeau

Mr. Monahan (applicant) discussed the revised plans to the proposed dock above. The length was shortened based on the objections lodged by the Commission on the previous plans. Mr. Wood was present to observe discussion on the application as a representative of the Narrow River Preservation Association.

A motion was made that there are no objections to the revised application as presented by C. Duckworth, seconded by B. Gross. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

B. CRMC Public Notice File No. 1996-01-061 (Modification) - Assent Application to modify an existing residential boating facility with pier, ramp, and float to meet standards. - Gregory Jones

Discussion acknowledged that this modification is to bring the dock into compliance with current standards and is not a large deviation from the existing dock. A motion was made that there are no objections to the application as presented by S. Grimley, seconded by C. Duckworth. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

7. Harbormaster's Report

M. Stach reported:

- Waiting to hear on grants for mitigation of Hydrilla on Indian Lake and watershed plan.
- Received word that town will be awarded grant to install boat wash at Worden Pond. \$32,412.
- Marina Park work; new hanging signs installed, new dock signs to be installed, stone in trailer parking area, trailer striping in east lot.
- Conservation Commission is looking to have the town conduct water quality testing.

8. Next Meeting – Thursday, June 6, 2024

9. Adjournment

C. Duckworth made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm. Second by S. Grimley. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0

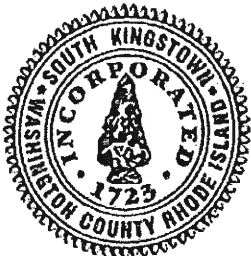
Public Participation

The public is invited to speak at regular meetings during the public comments portion of the agenda and at other times when invited to do so by the Chairperson. Presentations will be limited to five minutes unless approved by the Chairperson

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COASTAL RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



Town of South Kingstown, Rhode Island

Office of the Town Manager

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James M. Manni
Town Manager

February 7, 2024

RI Coastal Resources Management Council
Stedman Government Center, Suite 3
4808 Tower Hill Rd.
Wakefield, RI 02879-1900

To Whom it May Concern,

On January 22, 2024, at a regular session of the South Kingstown Town Council, the Town Council voted unanimously to support the below recommendation from the South Kingstown Waterfront Advisory Commission in response to CRMC Public Notice re: file #2023-11-073. Please accept this letter as the Town's notice of objection per the following detail.

At a meeting of the South Kingstown Waterfront Advisory Commission on Wednesday, January 4, 2024, CRMC Public Notice re: file #2023-11-073, was reviewed. The Commission unanimously passed a motion 5-0, to recommend the Town Council file an objection to the proposed assent application to construct and maintain a residential boating facility as detailed in CRMC file # 2023-11-073, based on the below items:

"Object to the application because of a concern that the length will adversely affect boat traffic in the area based on:

1. The presentation of the approximate channel on the plans and the accuracy of that presentation.
2. The requested variance. The application requests a variance of 11' length to CRMC Redbook 650-RICR-20-00-01 Section 1.3.1(D)(11)(1)(2). The requested variance has the potential to impede boat traffic that currently uses the area given the uncertainty of the delineated "approximate channel". (How was this data obtained by the engineer since there is no designated channel in the area?)"

As noted in the application, the constructed dock as proposed would extend a total of 61' seaward from the mean low water mark (MLW) where there is currently no dock. The plans indicate an approximate "channel" where boat traffic in the area operates. Members of the Commission question the accuracy of this location on the plans. Public comment heard at both the Waterfront Advisory Commission Meeting and the Town Council Meeting, from the Harbormaster and from members of the Commission all indicate that heavy recreational boat traffic operates at significant speed in the area adjacent to the proposed dock throughout the boating season. The area of the proposed dock is adjacent to the deepest water over an extremely shallow sand bar (less than two feet of water). As a result, all of the boat traffic operates in the area adjacent to the proposed dock generally on a plane at speed to avoid running aground on the sandbar.

The docks to the north and the south do not protrude out into the waterway to the extent of this proposed dock. The longest dock to the south measures approximately 40 ft from the shore. To the north the dock is parallel to the shore, not perpendicular as indicated in the plans of this proposed dock.

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COASTAL RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Thank you to CRMC for extending the response period for the Waterfront Advisory Commission and Town Council to thoroughly review and consider the application. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact South Kingstown Harbormaster & NRO, Michael Stach at mstach@southkingstownri.com.

Sincerely,



James M. Manni
Town Manager