

Riverfront Access Committee

Special Meeting

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

6:30 P.M.

Portland Public Library

20 Freestone Ave. Portland, CT 06480

Present: Louis Pear- Co-Chair, Rick Sharr- Co-Chair, Karen Renner, Mike Hennessey, Mark Tuttle-alt.

1. Chairman call meeting to order

Chair, Louis Pear called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

2. Roll Call/Seating of Alternates; Mark was seated in Tom Bransfield's absence

3. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of March 28, 2023 meeting by Rick Sharr, second by Mike Hennessey. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on Botanical and Biological studies: State provided the study. The town will hire a Botanist and Wildlife specialist. Ryan Curley will get an update from Jacobson. Rick Shnarsky will be going out next week to survey the vegetation. The plant survey will be conducted first, then the mussels. Rick read from the correspondence that had information on testing. There was a discussion on a path to the potential launch site and the general expectation of a timeline for findings of the testing. When we get the reports back we will update Tilcon and inquire about placement of their fencing to start clearing efforts. We will consult with Public Works Director about the steps to construct an entry road. The committee reviewed what needs to be considered with regards to the wildlife and vegetation in the proposed launch area.

5. Birdon Meeting Overview: Lou and Rick met with Birdon. Lou updated them on where we are in the planning and the actual plan for the launch area. Present at that meeting were Ryan Curley, Lou Pear, Rick Sharr, the person in charge of the docks, Operations, the President and an Administrative support staff person. They presented 3 proposals; leasing us Dock C, a small spot for residents to launch a small boat and offered 25 passes or a pass that can be rotated by the Library, much like the Museum passes. The third proposal was an offer for us to use the end of the campground to get to our property, but they rescinded that third offer.

6. Portland Fair Tabling: The committee will revisit if we get the reports back. Discussion on funding and fundraising and possibly making a brochure to inform the public about the new boat launch.

7. Public Comment: None

8. Adjournment

Lou Pear made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Mark Tuttle, Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Renner". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and legible.

Karen Renner, Secretary

July 10, 2023