**Tri-Town Beach Commission**

**Monday, December 11, 2023**

**4:00PM**

**Tri Town Beach Pavilion**

**MINUTES**

Present: Diane Kolakoski, Kenneth Cuddeback, Patriciaann Telega

Absent: Marc Bussiere

Ms. Telega called the meeting to order at 4:08 PM

**Front Gate**

Patty presented a proposal from L & L Fence to replace the front gate at a cost of $1,800. The new gate will improve security for the property. Access codes will be given to the Urkiels and Whately officials to provide access to their properties when the beach is closed. There is money in the budget to cover this expense.

*Motion made by Ken Cuddeback, seconded by Diane Kolakoski to proceed with having L & L Fence replace the front gate at a cost not to exceed $1,800. Motion approved 3 – 0.*

Vote

Ken Cuddeback - yes, Diane Kolakoski - yes, Patty Telega – yes

**Pump House Repairs**

Patty reports the pump house needs upgrades and repairs to the equipment and infrastructure prior to opening next season. We also need to have the sewer lines checked to see what is causing backups into the restroom and front entry drains. The work will need to be completed as early as possible in the spring. Costs could run around $3,000 to $5,000. The commission agreed that we need to proceed with these repairs.

**Dock Proposal**

Ken reviewed the proposal he had prepared by EZ Dock for additional dock sections for the beach. He had requested a quote on two docks that have five ten foot sections plus access ramps and ladders. The proposal came in at $32,160.80. Ken envisioned one dock on the south shore by the gazebo and the other on the west shore at the current dock location. Patty and Diane suggested the dock might be best installed as one long dock off the south shore while the current removable dock will remain on the west shore. This would provide the best option for lifeguard access and safety at this time. The commission discussed the options and agreed that the single dock would make the most sense. The commission discussed submitting proposals to the Community Preservation Act (CPA) committees in Deerfield and Whately to see if they would support funding for the proposed purchase under recreation in their FY25 planning.

*Motion made by Patty Telega, seconded by Diane Kolakoski to submit a proposal to the CPA committees in Deerfield and Whately for the purchase of the dock system at a cost not to exceed $32,160.80. Motion approved 3 – 0.*

Vote

Ken Cuddeback - yes, Diane Kolakoski - yes, Patty Telega – yes

**Budget Updates**

Ken reported the budget is in good shape at the end of the season. There is a balance of over $31,325 remaining in the operating budget and a small balance just over $500 in the Swim Program account. These monies should provide the necessary funds for the remainder of the FY24 budget year.

The commission discussed the budget needs for the coming FY25 budget, focusing on the anticipated staffing needs and hours of operation for the beach. The commission discussed plans to change the staffing model to have two lifeguards on duty at all times and having a third guard on duty when camps are at the beach. This will provide the coverage needed for swim lessons and proper beach coverage. The commission agreed that the gatekeeper position will be modified to primarily weekends with the

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lifeguards assuming the responsibility for monitoring passes and visitors during the week as part of their duties. Hours of operation will remain 10-7 during the summer season. Plans call for opening Memorial Day from 10-7 and the first two weekends in June from 12-5, then opening for the summer June 15th. Salaries for staff will not include raises for returning employees. Ken will prepare budget proposals based on these assumptions for our next meeting.

**Other Programs**

The commission discussed other programs and offerings we could consider for the coming season. They agreed that it would be worth exploring having water aerobics classes, kayak, and paddle boarding lessons next summer. The commission discussed charging for kayak and paddle board use this coming summer and the need to buy new kayaks if the budget allows. The commission also hopes for cold enough weather to allow for opening to ice skating in the coming winter months.

**SWEC Update**

Ken reviewed his correspondence with SWEC regarding progress on our submittal to NHESP for a plan to treat for water vegetation encroaching on the swim area. Naomi from SWEC reports that NHESP will require further documentation of measures to protect the dwarf bulrush before they can sign off on our proposed treatment plan. A further survey of the pond is recommended as the best way to accomplish this. The cost would be around $5,500. The commission feels that this process is moving slowly and not providing any real benefit to this point, but agree that this survey would be worth doing one more time. There is money in the budget to cover the cost.

*Motion made by Ken Cuddeback, seconded by Patty Telega to authorize SWEC to proceed with a final study of the vegetation and final plan submittal to NHESP at a cost not to exceed $5,500. Work on the survey and plan must be substantially completed by June 30, 2023. Motion approved 3-0.*

Vote

Ken Cuddeback - yes, Diane Kolakoski - yes, Patty Telega – yes

**Next Meeting**

The commission agreed that the next meeting could take place January 3, 2024 at 4:00 PM

**Adjournment**

*Patty Telega moved to adjourn with Diane Kolakoski seconding. Motion Approved 3 - 0.*

Vote

Ken Cuddeback - yes, Diane Kolakoski - yes, Patty Telega – yes

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kenneth Cuddeback

Attachments:

EZ Dock Quotation and Diagram