

July 13, 2010

To: Timothy Griswold, First Selectman  
Skip Sibley, Selectman  
Bonnie Reemsnyder, Selectwoman

From: Sound View Beach Commission Formation Committee (SBCFC)  
Frank Pappalardo, Chairman

On November 3, 2008, the Old Lyme Board of Selectmen passed a motion establishing the Sound View Beach Commission Formation Committee with the purpose to act as an advisory committee to the Board of Selectmen. The Committee has a primary focus to:

“Investigate the effectiveness of creating a Sound View Beach Commission. This would include looking at various beach commissions from other towns and designing one that would be a best fit for the Sound View Beach area.”

and secondly:

“During its existence, this committee may also come forward with recommendations for: improvement, safety, health, and quality of life issues relating to Sound View as well as proposed solutions to the OL BOS.”

On February 23, 2009, the SBCFC held its' inaugural meeting. In the subsequent monthly meetings, members have examined various public beach communities throughout Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Maine. While identifying various concerns and challenges facing Sound View, our findings show Sound View to be similar in many ways to other public beaches. Further data collected identified how similar communities have met these challenges. With the information collected as well as our own findings unique to Sound View we have prepared a plan appropriate for our situation. The conclusion of the Committee is that a coordinated management effort is necessary for the vitality and future growth of the Sound View area. Various management entities were investigated, including: Committee, Municipal Special Service District, and Commission. It is the decision of the Committee that the most effective management entity for Sound View is as a Town Commission.

With the valuable assistance of the Board of Selectman, town departments and the community, we are pleased to offer this proposal for the establishment of the Sound View Commission.

Respectfully submitted:

Frank Pappalardo, Chairman  
Michaelle Pearson - Secretary  
Gail Fuller - member  
David Griswold - member  
Harry S. Plaut - member  
Russell Carlo - alternate  
Joanne Lishing - alternate

# **Proposal to the Board of Selectmen**

## **Sound View Commission**

July, 2010

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### **Mission Statement**

“Establish and preserve Sound View as a vibrant community asset to the town, while conserving the historic characteristics of the area. Promote and sponsor effective policy for health, safety, recreation, environmental and economic concerns within the area through planned development and use with a special emphasis on alliances with the arts community.”

### **Areas of concern:**

Including but not limited to: town owned / operated assets at Sound View (*to be determined with input from the Board of Selectmen, and various Town departments*) such as: lighting, parking, beach cleaning, buoys, swim lines, snow fencing, beach maintenance, gazebos, bandstands, rafts, restroom facilities, picnic areas, bocce court, docks, lifeguards, vending machines, benches, barriers, signage, security, and contracted services.

### **Responsibilities:**

The Commission shall:

- Establish protocols and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and evaluate to streamline the services provided by the Town.
- Undertake a process of coordinating existing rules, regulations and statutes within town agencies to address issues and concerns as they are identified.
- Administer and / or coordinate SOPs as appropriate.
- Act as liaison with community and various departments / agencies.
- Assist in identifying areas of concern not presently under the control of any entity and work with the town departments and the Board of Selectmen to cause these areas to be assigned to a specific department or to come under the purview of the commission.
- Assist with implementation of a long-term strategic plan for the area (future planning). Including: authority or ability to speak with private investors and or government agencies regarding improvements and obtaining grants, etc. for the area. Work with zoning, planning and private investors to develop strategic partnerships to improve the beach area. Emphasis will be placed on working with the arts community, as identified in the Mission Statement.
- Evaluate situations as they arise, so they can be resolved as close to the source as possible. Take corrective action when appropriate through existing methods, develop future plans for action.

**Physical Boundaries:**

For purposes of the Commission, Sound View is defined as the following area:

Beginning at a point in the southeast corner of Cross Lane at the intersection of the north highway line of Route 156 (aka Shore Road)

thence proceeding in a northerly direction along the easterly line of Cross Lane to a point intersecting the southerly line of the Amtrak RR Co.

thence proceeding in an easterly direction along the southerly line of the Amtrak RR Co. to the northeast corner of Gorton Avenue

thence proceeding in a southerly direction along the easterly line of Gorton Ave intersecting the northerly line of Route 156 (aka Shore Road)

thence proceeding in a westerly direction along the northerly line of Route 156 (aka Shore Road) to a point 83.1 feet east of and parallel to Swan Avenue

thence running in a southerly direction 83.1 feet east of the easterly line of Swan Ave to a point marking the mean high tide mark of Long Island Sound, and further southerly and easterly encompassing the intertidal zone and water front.

thence proceeding in a westerly direction along the mean high tide mark of Long Island Sound to a point in line with the westerly line of Hartford Ave. and further southerly and westerly encompassing the intertidal zone and water front.

thence proceeding in a northerly direction along the westerly line of Hartford Avenue to the center line of Pond Road

thence proceeding in a westerly direction along the center line of Pond Road to a point where it intersects the east line of Alleyway # 3

thence proceeding in a northerly direction along the easterly line of Alleyway # 3 to a point intersecting the north street line of Route 156 (aka Shore Road)

thence proceeding in a westerly direction along the northerly line of Route 156 (aka Shore Road) to the southeast corner of Cross lane to POB.

The area described above shall also encompass all town roads and accesses, including, but not limited to: the cross lanes; Alleys #1 and #2; the 40-foot public thoroughfare known as Lot B-11; and Long Island Avenue.

Note: The above description shall in no way be construed as to compromise any existing easements, rights of way, or other deeded rights to or over said properties.

**Structure of Proposed Commission:**

Members shall be appointed by the Board of Selectmen via an application process. The Commission shall consist of 5 regular members and 3 alternates. Regular members would serve 3-year staggered terms. Alternates would serve 1-year terms. The membership shall include 3 regular members who are property owners or registered voters from within the physical boundaries of the Sound View area as described above, and two registered voters from the community at large. Alternates could be from the town at large.

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