

**BEACH IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE  
SEPTMEBER 26, 2009**

**PRESENT WERE:** Gail Fuller, Seb Bartolotta, Kim Groves, Tim Griswold and Don Bugbee.

Bartolotta visited the company that makes the toilet trailer, but there were none available at the site at this time to view. Bartolotta stated he still missing the figure for the cost of insurance for the trailer. He stated he met with a representative of Connecticut Water Company and it was agreed they could bring in the water from Pond Road. He stated it would cost approximately \$78.00 to tap into the line and the Town would dig a trench for a hose that would run along the split rail fence to the trailer. Groves asked if the hose would run across the parking lot. Bartolotta stated it would run along the edge of the split-rail fence. Griswold asked if the water could be tied into the existing pipe and then run underground through a buried pipe to the trailer. Bartolotta stated he did not feel it was necessary to go to that expense. Groves expressed concern that the hose would be vandalized. Bartolotta stated that plastic piping could be used rather than copper which would make it less expensive. Bartolotta stated he estimated the water hook up cost would be approximately \$1,000.00. Griswold clarified that a \$1,000 would be adequate to cover the cost to connect the water from Pond Road to the trailer. Bartolotta stated it would only cover the cost to the property but not to the trailer. Griswold stated then the cost to run it to the trailer would be additional and the amount would depend on whether we used underground piping or a hose. Bartolotta stated he received an estimate of approximately \$20.00 a foot. Griswold asked if the \$1,000 only covered getting the water from the road to the fence. Bartolotta stated that was correct. Griswold asked if the location of the trailer would be the same as the port-o-potties. Bugbee stated he felt this location was the least disruptive. Bartolotta the electrical would also cost \$1,000 to be connected to the trailer.

Griswold stated the estimate for pumping the toilets during the summer months would be \$14,000, which is based on 4 times a week. This may not be adequate.

Fuller stated she had just spoken with Jerry Vowles who provided her with a name of an individual who would be interested in cleaning the trailer.

Groves stated that all of the figures provided for the cost of the trailer are based on three months usage and the town currently has port-o-potties on site from April to September. Fuller suggested that a handicapped toilet be brought to the site in April and remain

through September. Groves stated she did not feel one handicapped toilet could handle the volume from Memorial Day Weekend until June 1, when the trailer is delivered. Fuller suggested the trailer be delivered prior to Memorial Day and remain on the site through Labor Day. Groves stated that the cost of the trailer has been based on three month period and this timeframe exceeds that period. It was agreed that the committee needs to have accurate figures which reflect the actual timeframe needed prior to going to the Board of Finance.

Bartolotta stated he also had a figure of \$500 to create a stone base around the trailer.

Bugbee asked if there is an estimate of the number of people that would use the trailer in a day. Bartolotta stated estimated the usage at 1,000 people of day. Bartolotta stated this trailer has fewer fixtures inside of it than the current nine port-o-potties at the site. Bugbee stated the configuration for the trailer is six toilets and 2 urinals. We currently have 9 port-o-potties and that is sometimes inadequate for the crowd. He further stated that the port-o-potties are outdoors and more accessible than a trailer.

Bugbee stated he felt the trailer would get clogged up with people trying to enter to see if there are vacancies. Fuller and Bartolotta asked how frequently people are standing in line to use the potties. Bugbee stated sometimes the lines are 40 people deep.

Bugbee stated there are nine port-o-potties now that are open and accessible. He is concerned bottle necks will occur crowding inside of the trailer. Bugbee also expressed concern that the 9 current units are being pumped 5 times a week and the proposal for the trailer is to only pump 4 times a week. Bugbee further stated that there are times that they should be done every day. Bugbee stated that the port-o-potties don't use water but these units do and therefore will take up more tank spaces. Bartolotta stated that every time the trailer is pumped it will cost approximately \$300.00. Griswold asked why the cost of pumping out the trailer exceeds the cost of pumping a residential septic system.

Griswold asked if there was any flexibility as to the fixtures that are put into each trailer. Bartolotta stated not with this company.

Bugbee stated he did not see what the advantage was to having a trailer versus the port-o-potties. Fuller stated it would be nicer. Bugbee stated he didn't feel either one of them would be clean for very long.

Griswold stated that one of the other units that this committee looked at each fixtures in their own little individual compartments. Groves stated when those units were discussed there was concerns over the pump out jets. If they failed then none of the units would work.

Bartolotta stated he concurred with Bugbee's concern and stated he would like to see 5 fixtures in the women's room and four in the men's room plus three urinals. Therefore, he stated this was an experiment and that is why the proposal is to lease rather than purchase. Griswold and Fuller also agreed that the trailer was not the best configuration.

Fuller stated this Committee has been discussing this same issue for the past several years. She doesn't want to abandon the issue but she also does not want to go round and round for another year with no solution

Fuller stated if there is so much concern about having a group room where numerous people can go maybe we should look at the individual compartments.

Discussion ensued over the actual time frame the units would be needed and the advantage of the trailer over the port-o-potties. Bugbee stated he did not see any gain but just a whole bunch more problems with people flowing in and out of the trailer, the pumping and cleaning of the units and the additional expense.

Groves suggested that port-o-potties be placed on each of the individual permitted lots for their parking patrons to use in order to eliminate some of the burden on the town lot. Bugbee stated he feels all of the patrons of the permitted lots use the port-o-potties when they arrive and before they depart to travel.

Fuller asked if the feeling of this Committee is not to bother at all with the trailers. Bugbee stated he just doesn't see the advantage. Fuller stated she felt it would be a lot nicer for people who visit the area. She further stated she felt that Sound View should be treated the same as the other beaches in town. Groves stated that White Sand Beach has limited parking. Fuller stated all of the state beaches have buildings with bathrooms. She further stated she thinks the area deserves to have a nice facility.

Fuller stated she is getting very discouraged with the situation. She stated there is no way to design and create something that will be 100% free of problems with the amount of people coming into the area. Fuller stated she felt if the area was improved, it would draw of better class of people. Bugbee stated he disagrees with that. He stated he doesn't think there is one person that is getting in their car and saying "I wonder what the bathrooms look like at Sound View". He stated he thinks the crowds are who they are and they are going to do what they do because of the alcohol and substance abuse that goes on all day long.

Griswold asked where the funds come from to do this trial, which will cost approximately \$40,000.00. Fuller stated there is money in the parking lot fund and hardly any of it has been used for Sound View. She stated it has been used for lots of other things around

town. Griswold stated the town has improved sidewalks, paved Soundview streets and so on. Griswold stated the trailer could be tried, however he noted that Park and Recreation does not want to be responsible for the cleaning of the trailer. Fuller stated that Jerry Vowles has already spoken to someone who will clean the trailer.

Griswold stated that Mr. Vowles would have to be responsible for it because, when this was first discussed, one of the major concerns was how we were going to maintain and keep it free from vandalism. He said we could possibly give it go, we would have to provide insurance for the unit. However, this Committee has already determined that the configuration of fixtures in the trailer is inadequate. Griswold asked how a trailer would be funded if the town was expected to pay for this, or would the private lots and area businesses would be willing to contribute. Griswold stated we need to be sure that we have someone who is willing to supervise the unit and the personnel responsible for cleaning the unit.

Griswold stated this committee could make a recommendation to move this proposal forward to rent the unit for one season (consisting of 16 weeks). He stated there will be increase of \$30,000.00 to the town unless private lot owners and business owners contribute. He also noted that we would need to confirm that Jerry Vowles would be responsible for overseeing the cleaning of the trailer as well as securing the unit every evening.

Griswold stated perhaps the town might want to consider renting the unit for a shorter trial period to see how it goes, and in the event if failed, the unit could be returned. Fuller stated there are some start up costs in getting the unit.

Fuller stated this committee needs to make the decision as to the type of unit that is recommended: one with a bathroom area or one with individual stalls.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Groves