

Minutes of the Sound View Beach Commission Formation Committee APPROVED  
3.23.09

Meeting held: Monday, 23rd February, 2009  
7.30 pm  
Old Lyme Memorial Town Hall.

Present: Regular Members: David Griswold, Gail Fuller, Frank Pappalardo, Michaelle Pearson, Harry Plaut.

Also Present: Timothy C. Griswold, Ex-Officio

Absent: Russell Carlo (Alternate), Michelle Zito (Alternate)

The meeting was called to order at 7.35pm

Tim Griswold reviewed the history and purview of the initial Sound View Parking Committee, which was formed to address issues of weekend congestion, parking, sanitation and general improvements which could be made to the Sound View area. Introductions were made, then the Committee moved on to selection of Officers.

Gail Fuller nominated Frank Pappalardo for Chairman. Michaelle Pearson seconded. Motion passed.

Ms. Pearson was nominated for Secretary by Gail Fuller, seconded by Frank Pappalardo. Motion passed.

Tim Griswold then reviewed the Board of Selectmen's motion for formation of this Committee and presented the Board's charge to the Committee.

Frank Pappalardo read the Board of Selectmen's Motion (passed on 11.03.08) and reviewed the two specific missions of this Committee:

- 1) Investigate the effectiveness of creating a Sound View Beach Commission.
- 2) Make recommendations for improvement, safety, health, and quality of life issues relating to Sound View, as well as propose solutions to the Board of Selectmen.

Frank Pappalardo stated that the Committee should look at other towns with Beach Commissions and/ or relevant statutes regulating beach areas and related activity. He stated that he expected the Committee would take 4-5 months to gather ideas and collect research. Mr. Pappalardo also suggested that the Committee should consider meeting at the Shoreline Community Center during the summer months to encourage input from residents of Swan, Portland and Hartford Avenues.

Gail Fuller pointed out that "Sound View" should always be spelled as two words.

Harry Plaut stated that the definition of "Sound View" should not be limited to three roads (Hartford, Portland, Swan), but should also include parts of Route 156, the Extension Streets, and other area beaches, as they are impacted by the same problems and

issues. Michaëlle Pearson stated that while she agreed that parts of Rte 156 are affected by Sound View traffic, etc., as a State road, Rte 156 presents a different set of issues than Hartford, Portland and Swan Avenues, which are Town roads.

Gail Fuller stated that we need to define roles and assignments for the committee. Frank Pappalardo opened a discussion of ground rules: It was determined that to remain a member of this Committee, members would be allowed no more than three (3) unexcused absences. Failure to complete two (2) work assignments on time would also be grounds for dismissal. A quorum was determined to be three (3) voting members. Alternates will automatically fill in for absent regular members. If the Chairman is not present, an alternate Chairperson will be selected for that date. The Meeting Agenda must be set no less than 24 hours in advance and posted by the Chairman on the Town web site. If a member wishes to add an item to the agenda on the day of the meeting, a 2/3 majority must approve said addition.

Harry Plaut asked if there was a budget allotted for this Committee, to cover expenses for photocopying, etc. Tim Griswold stated that there was none, but the Selectmen would consider any requests as they arose. Mr. Griswold then gave some guidelines for Public Comment at Committee meetings and reviewed the FOI requirements. Gail Fuller asked if all members had been sworn in. David Griswold stated that he had not, but would be before the next meeting.

It was determined that future meetings would take place on the Fourth (4th) Monday of every month at 7.30 pm. The next two meetings are set for 23 March, 2009 and 27th April, 2009 at Old Lyme Memorial Town Hall.

Frank Pappalardo assigned the work tasks for the next meeting: Committee members shall compile a list of issues the Committee might want to address, along with recommendations for corrective action. Tim Griswold agreed to contact the Connecticut Council of Municipalities (CCM) regarding which towns have Beach Commissions and/ or specific regulations which might be relevant.

David Griswold suggested taking a look at Misquamicut as an example of a beach with similar problems to Sound View that was improved in a short amount of time.

There was some discussion as to what exactly the purpose of this Committee is. Harry

Plaut stated that the Board of the Federation of Beaches (FOB) had expressed some concern regarding the work of this Committee. David Griswold asked how this Committee would be similar or different to the Federation of Beaches. Mr. Plaut said that the FOB has evolved to be a "sounding board" for the entire beach community, and that he hoped this committee wouldn't turn into a "pissing contest." Tim Griswold clarified the purpose of this Committee, and reminded us that this Committee is an "arm of the Board of Selectmen", and as such is part of the Town government, which the FOB is not. Frank Pappalardo asked to see a copy of the FOB's Charter and Bylaws.

Mr. Pappalardo then asked if there was any further business to discuss, and made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8.50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michaelle Pearson  
Secretary