

Sound View Commission-Unapproved

March 27, 2022

7.30 pm - Town Hall

**Present:** Frank Pappalardo (Chair), Michaelle Pearson (Secretary), Harry Plaut, Joann Reis Lishing, Jackie Miano (Alternate), **Absent:** Robert Carlson (Alternate), Frank Maratta, Paul Orzel

**Also present:** Stephanie Livesey, Tom Larsen

**7.37 pm** Meeting called to order by Chairman Frank Pappalardo.

Alternate Jackie Miano was seated for the absent Frank Maratta

Approval of March minutes: Frank Pappalardo made a correction to the March minutes. Delete text at the end which had been mistakenly carried over from the previous month's minutes.

Approved with changes. Motion to approve: Joann Lishing, Jackie Miano seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Public comment:**

Tom Larsen asked if there was any news regarding the Rangers driving on the beach. Have they made any changes for the next year? Frank Pappalardo said there is an Operations Committee meeting this 9 am this Thursday at Town Hall, and that will be on the agenda. The meeting will include the SVC recommendations from December to address resident complaints regarding the Rangers driving on the beach. Tom Larsen asked if it would be a phone in meeting as well? FP said no.

**Correspondence:** Frank Pappalardo sent a letter to the Harbor Management Commission regarding the request for water patrols. Received a response from Tom Kelo that HMC will request that they or the Selectmen be able to go to the state Police, DEEP and Coast Guard to ask for patrols.

**Shoreline Gateway Committee:** Meetings are every third Thursday at 5pm. One of the areas discussed was development along Shore road. There have been resident concerns regarding recent development proposals that don't fit into anyone's vision of the Gateway area. Gateway Committee discussed implementing a moratorium on building until the issues of multiple zones can be worked out. It would be for 12 months, but need to have everything in line before requesting to ensure the time is used effectively. Next meeting April 20th.

Discussion regarding the former Mletschnig property on Shore Road, across from Miami Beach. Jackie Miano stated that she is a former abutter of that property, and it is very wet. Frank Pappalardo said the developer has proposed a large retention pond. Blight was cited as the number one issue in the Gateway Survey, but a blight ordinance would apply to the entire town, so there are many variables to consider. Possible to do a commercial-only blight ordinance. Gateway will develop a mission statement for the area based on the responses from the survey. Once that's in place they will discuss whether implementing a temporary moratorium on development in the Gateway area makes sense.

**Zoning Commission Update:** Public hearing set for 4/10 regarding the vacant lot that was the former Dance Hall/ Kiddieland. Owner Frank Noe would like to build a structure on the lot, which would serve as a kiosk leased to Kokomos to sell items, with a parking lot as an accessory

use. According to the Zoning Commission statement, the Subject property is in the Sound View Village District and is currently vacant. Harry Plaut asked if the structure would be temporary or permanent? No information as of yet. Frank Pappalardo stated that Frank Noe initially wanted to use that parcel as a commercial parking lot, but that would have been a change of use. Reviewed the relevant sections of the zoning code that would apply to this parcel. Parking regulations are also a factor. As far as we know there has not yet been a proposed site plan.

**Motion** to craft a letter to the Zoning Commission expressing the SVC's concerns, and citing the relevant Zoning sections that apply to this project. Also expressed disappointment that the SVC was not consulted, as it is the advisor to the Board of Selectmen for the development and management of the Sound View area. Motion: Joann Lishing. Harry Plaut, seconded. All in favor.

**Budget:** On March 15th, the Board of Finance (BOF) approved a \$26665 operating budget for SVC. Capital expenditures: Portolet trailer and maintenance not approved. BOF didn't see the value in a depreciating asset. Advised that chance of approval would be better for a permanent structure than a trailer. Approximately 8 years ago we had an estimate for a permanent structure of \$200K-300K (with sewers). Composting toilets would be more expensive. Until have some direction as to whether sewers are happening or not, we can't move forward with a petition for a permanent structure. Michaelle Pearson asked how it was possible for both White Sands and Town Woods to have restroom structures with septic, but not at Sound View. Frank Pappalardo said he would ask Geomatrix what might be possible.

Joann Lishing asked: What about the gazebo that was removed from the parking lot, moved to Cross Lane, and never replaced? Town will not give it back. Has stated they would pay for materials if we could get it built by one of the trade schools in the area or other volunteers.

Harry Plaut said that he and Don Bugbee recently went through the swim lines and floats for the swim area, and it all needs to be replaced because it's been in use for 5-6 years. Asked Mr. Bugbee to verify that it does need replacing. The orange floats are ok, they just need to be re-strung on new rope. The 10 actual swim buoys need to be replaced, at a total cost of \$6300. The price of buoys has gone up, nearly doubled. Plaut asked if the buoys could be placed in the SVC budget rather than Parks and Rec Commission? We will consider for next year, but only for the buoys used at Sound View. Harry Plaut will bring it up again at the end of the summer.

**Concerts/ Events:** Old Lyme Town Band on June 22, then every other Thursday starting 6/13 Souls on Fire, 7/27 TBD, 8/10 Red Satin, 8/24 TBD.

Tom Larson suggested "The Jovial Crew", who perform sea chanteys at the Griswold Inn. Michaelle Pearson agreed that they would be an excellent addition. Frank Pappalardo also suggested several other bands.

**Spring/Summer Public Works:** Would like to see the opening at Hartford Avenue entrance to the beach 12 feet. Move the boulders further onto the sand, but would allow beach equipment to pass through. Trash can enclosures: Arcadian Arts and Woodworking LLC will build them, with doors on the side. Will send proposal. Flowers/ flagpole: will be maintained by "Yards and More".

**Other business:** Tom Larsen from "Just Dump It" presented an idea to have hanging beach pails on a pole at the beach to encourage people to pick up litter on the sand. Based on a similar

feature he saw in Hilton Head, SC. Just-Dumpit proposed to sponsor and fund the project. The Commission agreed with the proposal. Frank Pappalardo will present this to the Operations Committee and Selectmen for their approval.

**Motion To adjourn:** Joann Lishing, Harry Plaut Seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9.23pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Michaelle Pearson, Secretary