

**MINUTES OF STONY CREEK ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE BOARD
TUESDAY, MARCH 5 2019**

Call to Order: A meeting of the Stony Creek Association Executive Board was called to order at 7:03pm on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at Willoughby Wallace Library by Bob Babcock, board member.

Executive Board: Present:

Deb DeFord	Ed Gagliardi
Ted Ells	Hannah Purdy
Jake Greenvall	Mark Richter
Jim Walker	Nancy Patton
Nick Fischer, Tax Collector	Bob Babcock

Absent:

Dan Bullard	Sandy Fischer
Greg Ames, Treasurer	

Public: 9

Bob Babcock read a letter from Dan Bullard, President, regarding the tenor of comments at Stony Creek Association meetings. The letter is attached.

Minutes:

- There was a discussion about the process of draft and final minutes. It was clarified that, in the future, only one set of draft minutes will be posted; any comments or revisions will take place at the following board meeting.
- Hannah Purdy to call Tom Hennick at the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information in Hartford for additional clarification.
- Linda Reed read a letter she had written regarding her concerns about the two sets of draft minutes.

February 5th minutes were revised to

- more accurately reflect the communication regarding 30 School Street.
- include the missing attachment regarding the dangerous tree near West Point Park.
- A motion made by Nancy Patton, seconded by Mark Richter, to approve the February 5, 2019 minutes as amended. Ed Gagliardi & Deb DeFord abstained from voting; all else in favor. Final February 5, 2019 minutes attached.

Treasurer's Report:

- Mark Richter presented the monthly report, with \$1628 bills to be paid.
- Jake Greenville presented a bill for Dog Poop bags (\$148.59)
- Phil Brencher forwarded a bill for Tree Lighting (\$112.56)
- Total bills to be paid: \$1889.17

- Motion by Hannah Purdy, seconded by Nancy Patton to pay bills presented. All approved.
- Mark Richter presented the monthly report. Motion by Ted Ells, seconded by Deb DeFord to approve the Treasurer's report for audit. All approved. See attached.

Tax Collector:

- Tax Collector Nick Fisher presented that all taxes except one have been collected.

Legal & Zoning:

- ZBA Applications
 - 40 Thimble Island Road (accessory structure)
 - On the agenda for the March 7 meeting at Fire House. 40 Thimble Island Road is seeking a special exception, tearing down the existing garage and adding an accessory apartment (852 SF.) ZBA has approved the application for a variance.
 - 240 Thimble Island Road
 - On the agenda for the March 19 ZBA hearing at Canoe Brook. 240 Thimble Island Road is proposing tearing down the existing house and making new 2-story house with addition and deck. Neighbors note they have not received notice.
 - 39A Stony Creek Road (solar panels)
 - The solar panels are proposed to be on the ground, and not visible.
 - 30 School St:
 - Variance for a garage. Mrs. Stark (public) asked what was incorrect about Linda Reed's letter from February 5. Peter Hentschel noted the person and project are separate, the wetlands application has not been made yet, and Peter has not been reached out to by concerned citizens.

Police & Traffic:

- No report
- Ed Gagliardi will be on the Police & Traffic committee.
- Linda Reed and Dan Bullard haven been researching solar speed limit signs.

Maintenance:

- Jim Walker called the town engineer regarding 102 Thimble Island Road's retaining wall. John Hoefflerle and Anthony Cinicola will review and may need to notify Amtrak if movement of retaining wall is seen.
- Hannah Purdy followed up with the Tree Warden & Public Works regarding the dangerous tree on the access road to West Point Park. The Tree Warden said because it's on private property, they cannot do anything about it. Hannah Purdy will follow up and note that it's overhanging a public way and is a danger to walkers, runners, and bikers.

Administration:

- Mark Richter is working on creating committee emails (listed below) that will be available for the public to communicate with the executive board through their various committees:
 - president@sca-ct.org
 - clerk@sca-ct.org
 - treasurer@sca-ct.org
 - taxes@sca-ct.org
 - LegalandZoning@sca-ct.org
 - PoliceandTraffic@sca-ct.org
 - administration@sca-ct.org

- Canines in Stony Creek: Janet Weithas brought in a copy of proposed signs noting that dogs must be on leash and that dog feces must be picked up. Nancy Patton will work with Public Works to have five of these signs installed. The cost of the signs will be \$25/each.

New Business:

Speeding:

- Jerry Shaw forwarded an email regarding speeding in Stony Creek and the possible installation of radar machines. See agenda for the April 2, 2019 Stony Creek Association Meeting and attached email.
- Hannah Purdy asked if we can we the speed limit changed to 15 MPH throughout Stony Creek.

Coastal Flooding:

- Deb DeFord provided an update on coastal flooding issues.
- Ms. DeFord will be working on a graphically more readable paper version of the existing evacuation and shelter guide, to be distributed among Stony Creek residents with the tax bill in July. A copy will also be posted at the library.
- Ms. DeFord noted that there is an Opt-In flood warning system that will notify participants when an area is flooded.
 - Residents can be notified of flooding using the **B-Informed** Emergency Notification System. Residents should register for emergency alerts by going to the following websites and clicking on the “B-Informed Sign Up Button:”
<http://www.branford-ct.gov>
<http://www.branfordpolice.gov>
- Ms. DeFord recommended we have a designated flood watch person who will notify the town when Stony Creek has flooding.
- Jim Walker wondered if we discuss the flooding issues with engineers from the Netherlands
- Unk DaRos (public) noted there is a public right-of-way/access through 3 Elms Road/Mobark Road.
- Peter Hentschel (public) noted there is inland flooding at railroad underpass and is talking to town about mitigation.

CT DEEP Blue Plan:

- Peter Hentschel has created a read-only/download Dropbox with folder with information of interest to the Stony Creek Community, where one can find a copy of the CT DEEP Blue Plan, as well as maps and a Yale School of Forestry student study of the Branford Shoreline with a cost/benefit analysis of remedial flood control strategies. Files are located at:
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ycctuqt533idnve/AABafyFEnh3l1yW0AKsaoPaAa?dl=0>
- Peter Hentschel noted that there is a 90-day comment period on the DEEP plan, starting on 3/1.
- Stony Creek residents are encouraged to review the plan and provide public comments. See agenda for the April 2, 2019 Stony Creek Association
- Tracy Everson (TIA) noted that DEEP isn't required to give notification to anyone when applications for aquaculture permits are submitted. Sean Scanlon was previously notified of this omission, but no changes were reflected the revisions.
- Ted Ells made a motion that the Stony Creek Association write a letter to Sean Scanlon & State Senator Christine Cohen expressing our recommendation that there be local notification/

input on any aquaculture application for permits. Nancy Patton seconded the motion. All in favor.

Parking:

- A letter from Mike Infantino to Selectman Jamie Cosgrove's address, and addressed to Members of the Board, regarding summer parking and traffic in Stony Creek was read out loud. A copy of the letter is attached.
- Jim Walker, Deb DeFord, Hannah Purdy, and Ted Ells noted they are against graveling/ parking at West Point Field, and that it is one of the few un-programmed spaces left in Stony Creek.
- Hannah Purdy noted she would prefer a traffic plan that limits vehicular access and prioritizes pedestrian access, even going as far as making parking for residents only, while providing public transportation for non-residents.
- Ed Gagliardi read from the Stony Creek Association handbook about the object of the Stony Creek Association and noted we have enough visitors coming to Stony Creek.
- Jake Greenvall noted that the church provides low-cost parking (\$5) directly across the street from the beach, and it has only been full a few times.
- Tracy Everson (Thimble Island Association) noted that the POCD is considering repurposing senior center buses to make a Branford commerce loop.
- Peter Hentschel and Bob Babcock both noted that the parking issues should be addressed at the proposed May Community Meeting with Fred & Kathy Kent of Project for Public Spaces (<https://www.pps.org/about>).
- Several members of the public noted that the addition of more parking doesn't benefit the residents of Stony Creek, only the handful of businesses, and that visitors don't want to walk from the Musuem parking lot.
- Unk DaRos (public) noted opposition to spending any taxpayer money on additional parking. Mr. D
- Unk DaRos noted that when he was selectman, he was fined \$10,000/day for filling in the pot holes on West Point Road, because he was filling in a floor plain.
- Unk DaRos recommended Stony Creek get their RTM members on the same page as the Stony Creek Association.
- Members of the public noted that in the Puppet Theater agreement, no parking is allowed at West Point Road.
- Ted Ells made a motion that we send a letter to the Selectman, Jamie Cosgrove, acknowledging that we are in receipt of the letter and we are taking up an effort to study the issue of traffic and parking as a village. We request that Mr. Cosgrove defer any movement on the issue without the input of the Stony Creek Association. We request notice of any action regarding parking and traffic in Stony Creek. Nancy DeFord seconded. Ed Gagliardi opposed. All else in favor.

Stony Creek Association Meeting

- Ted Ells, Jerry Shawn, Deb DeFord and Hannah Purdy are coordinating a Stony Creek Association meeting with Fred & Kathy Kent of Project for Public Spaces (<https://www.pps.org/about>) to occur in May or June. More information to follow.

Nancy Patton made a motion to adjourn. Mark Richter seconded the motion. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hannah Purdy, Clerk

The next meeting of the Stony Creek Association Executive Board will be held on **Tuesday, April. 2, 2018 at 7:00pm** at the Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library.

Reminder that if you would like to contact Dan Bullard, President, please *text* (203) 494-0467.

NOTE: MINUTES ARE POSTED AT SCA-CT.ORG
Stony Creek Association email address: sca06405@gmail.com
Or Stony Creek Association, PO Box 3145, Stony Creek, CT 06405