

Minutes of the Stony Creek Association – Executive Board Meeting May 7, 2024

Call to order: A meeting of the Stony Creek Association Executive Board was called to order at 7:04 p.m. on Tuesday May 7th, 2024 at the Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library by Mark Richter.

Present: Mark Richter – President, Katina Gionteris – Clerk, Tina Burne, Mark Gaynor, Kate Waldron, Courtney Rosenberg, Amy Bloom, Matt Milano, Stephen Palumbo Jr., Dan Bullard, Brian Love - Treasurer

Absent: Nick Fischer – Tax Collector, Robin Tierney, Harlan Fichtenholtz – Vice President

Public: 11

Minutes:

A motion was made by Amy Bloom and seconded by Steve Palumbo Jr. to accept the minutes to the 4/2/2024 meeting as written.

Steve Palumbo Jr. made a motion to move Peter Hentschel up on the schedule. Amy Bloom seconded and all were in favor.

Town Representative Report

- Peter Hentschel reported that all the sidewalk reparations are complete except for a couple of items. Courtney Rosenberg will write a letter of thanks to the town for completing the sidewalks.
- There is a triangle at the corner of Thimble Island Rd. and Three Elms Road that is a trip hazard.
- The pavement marking project which Steve Palumbo Jr., Courtney Rosenberg and Peter Hentschel have been working on has been sent over to the Branford Police Department. There are 9 private driveways, 1 at the post office and one on the curb across from the market that will be marked.
- The town removed the curb cut leading to the crosswalk in front of the post office over to the triangle and will remove the pavement markings as well.
- Dan Bullard submitted a letter to the Branford Representative Town Meeting (RTM) suggesting that the town create a townwide short term rental ordinance. The RTM has formed a sub-committee to discuss the legal issues, what other towns have done, and any lawsuits that have been filed in other places.
- A sub-committee has been formed to create a harbor management commission for the town. There may need to be a harbor management plan created as well.
- The final vote by the RTM on the town of Branford budget is May 14th. There is a mill rate increase proposed.

Treasurer's report

- Brian Love presented the bills report for this month totaling \$125.30 listed below:
 - \$95 to The Day for tag sale advertising
 - \$30.30 to Quickbooks online
- Tina Burne motioned to pay the bills and Mark Gaynor seconded. All were in favor.
- Brian Love read the treasurers report for the month. We began the month with \$23,855.11 cash on hand in the checking account. He moved money from the 1 year CD into the checking in the amount of \$20,412.29. We paid bills in the amount of \$125.30 and ended the month of April with a total of \$44,142.10. Our 3 month certificate of deposit (CD) has \$10,171.41. We have total combined assets of \$54,310.06. The 14 month CD will be rolled over into a 3 month certificate to make the money more readily available if needed.
- A motion was made by Steve Palumbo Jr. and seconded by Mark Gaynor to forward the treasurers report for audit. All were in favor.
- There was discussion on the budget and there were two additions made. There was \$15,000 added to the budget to potentially hire a police officer for the summer months and \$20,000 added to pay for reparations to the fountain triangle. Kate Waldron made a motion to approve the new budget amount of \$64,002.48 for the 2024/2025 year. Tina Burne seconded and all were in favor.

Tax collector's report – no report

Legal & Zoning

- Kate Waldron reported that 4 Three Elms Rd. is on the Planning and Zoning looking for 3 special exceptions.
 - Special exception modification & coastal site plan – multifamily residential (4 units)
 - Special exception oversize accessory structure (garage) over 15 feet in height.
 - Special exception modification - grading
 - The property is a tentatively scheduled for the Planning and Zoning meeting on May 16th. The Association will send information out about that hearing.
 - The application has been approved by the Stony Creek Architectural Review Board (SCARB).
 - There were objections by the public at the SCARB meeting on the amount of lighting.

Police and traffic

- Steve Palumbo Jr. reported that the line painting request has been sent to the chief of police hopefully for approval and then if it is approved it can then go to the town engineering department.
- Mark Richter and Peter Hentshel met with First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove and Branford Police Chief Jon Mulhern who stated that we do not have many problems here in Stony Creek as compared to other areas of town. They currently do not have a Community Service Officer this year for Stony Creek, however they are looking for one. We asked if a Stony Creek resident could be appointed but the Chief declined. If we want to pay an additional police officer to be in Stony Creek, they would be paid at the over time rate. Overtime is optional for police officers, they could accept or not.
 - They have a speed sign that they will put in Stony Creek.

- They requested a speed radar sign and it was placed the next day. They will move it around town as well.
- They will not paint dividing lines for parking spots because parking spaces need to be 8 feet wide and ours are not that wide.
- Church parking: The church is looking into their insurance policy.

Maintenance

- Courtney Rosenberg reported that she will send a thank you letter to the town for all the sidewalk work that has been completed.
- The landscapers have planted the flowers at memorial triangle and cleaned up the back of Bayview Park. Darren Collins cleaned up the strip.
- Sandy Fischer reported that Nick Fischer will try to get the water drain unclogged at the fountain triangle.
- Courtney will look into buying new garbage receptacles to replace all the receptacles in Stony Creek.

By-Laws Committee – No report

Nominating and election committee

The five people who are up for election this year are: Tina Burne, Matt Milano, Kate Waldron, Robin Tierney and Mark Gaynor. There are two additional people who are willing to run.

Stony Creek Day committee

- The committee will be reaching out for sponsors, volunteers and vendors for Stony Creek Day.

Special Events Committee

- The Spring Tag Sale went well!
- Stony Creek Farmers Market
 - There are currently 15 vendors for the Stony Creek Farmer's Market.
 - Six will be at every market and others will be coming during certain dates.
 - There will be revolving craft people from Stony Creek each week.
 - The Stony Creek Farmer's Market will be held every Sunday 10:00 am to 2:00 pm in Bayview Park beginning June 2nd until October 27th.
 - They have an Instagram page where they will announce which vendors will be at the farmer's market each week.
 - If any young people would like to do their community hours at the farmer's market please let us know. It has been approved by Branford High School.
 - Amy Bloom motioned to pay Clara Pagliaro 50% of the fees raised from the vendors, Mark Gaynor seconded. All were in favor.

Old Business

- None

New Business

Dan Bullard motioned, and Tina Burne seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Katina Gionteris, Clerk