

Minutes of the Stony Creek Association – Executive Board Meeting

October 1, 2024

Call to order: A meeting of the Stony Creek Association Executive Board was called to order at 7:04 p.m. on Tuesday October 1, 2024 at the Willoughby Wallace Memorial Library by Mark Richter.

Present: Mark Richter - President, Harlan Fichtenholtz-Vice President, Matt Milano, Kate Waldron, Mark Gaynor, Dan Bullard, Amy Bloom, Courtney Rosenberg, Randi O'Brien, Stephen Palumbo Jr., Sara Richter, Clara Pagliaro

Absent: Nick Fischer-Tax Collector, Brian Love

Public: 3

Minutes:

- Courtney Rosenberg motions to make 3 edits to last month's minutes.
 - "Courtney Rosenberg states speed bumps are a possibility in the future" changed to "speed bumps are being discussed".
 - The term "musician" was changed to "sound company", as all our musicians are volunteers.
 - Courtneys name was misspelled in police and traffic and Brian's name was corrected.
- Matt Milano motions to approve these changes, and Amy Bloom seconds. All are in favor.

Treasurer's Report

- Stephen Palumbo Jr. read the bills report for this month totaling \$6,032.12, (see attached).

- Stephen Palumbo Jr. motions to approve, and Amy Bloom seconds. All were in favor.
- Stephen Palumbo Jr. read the treasurer’s report for this month. We began the month with \$52,059.82 cash on hand in the checking account. We paid bills in the amount of \$4,144.53, deposited a total of \$1,887.59, and ended the month of with a total of \$ \$57,972.07 (see attached).
- Stephen Palumbo Jr. motioned to forward the treasurers report for audit, and Kate Waldron seconds. All were in favor.

Tax Collector’s Report

- Randi O’Brien read the tax collection report (see attached).

Legal and Zoning

- Kate Waldron reported she and Randi O’Brien met with Michelle Martin at Legal and Zoning where they filled out forms to be kept up to date via email.
- Kate Waldron reported there is a hearing on 10/3/24 for the following New Business:
 - Neal Robinson Sr. (Applicant & Owner) (J08-000-004-00017 R2)
12 School Street
Var. Sec. 3.4.A.6 To allow the expansion of an existing nonconforming side setback (6.2 feet where 10 feet is required)
Var. Sec 8.1.C.3 To allow an increase to an existing nonconforming structure for the construction of a second-floor addition above the existing garage and the relocation of the deck staircase.
 - Other New Business:
 - Phil Sullivan-Applicant & Owner
6 Buena Vista Rd
Special Exception-Accessory Structure
Application#24-9.7
To be A/R & PH to be set
- Old Business:
 - Matthew & Stephanie Milano-Applicants & Owners
115 Thimble Islands Rd

Special Exception Modification-Grading (Sec 6.8)
Within 100 ft. of a wetland for a single-family home
Application #24-9.2
A/R 9/19/24 & PH to be set

Police and Traffic

- Dan Bullard spoke with Sargent Stanley Konesky about establishing weekly meetings. Sargent Konesky agreed to meet on 10/2, but didn't feel the need for weekly meetings at this time.
- Mark Gaynor reported there was a car parked directly after passing under the train tracks coming into the Creek. There needs to be a new "No Parking" sign installed in the small section of road without one. Dan Bullard will discuss tomorrow with the Sargent.

Maintenance:

- Courtney Rosenberg reports the porta potty's in Madiera Park are being removed for the season, and the ones at Bayview Park will remain through Columbus Day.
- Jake's services will be completed as of today and we look forward to him resuming services in the 2025 season.
- Courtney discussed with Peter to take a look at the pier and gazebo at the beach area.
- The ladder at the dock is still very loose. Dan Bullard left a message with the town, but has not heard back. He will call again.
- The Buena Vista Street sign is missing since they did the sidewalks in the Spring. Courtney Rosenberg will email the town.
- Buena Vista is a very narrow street, and there have been construction vehicles on both sides of the street, blocking the flow of traffic, and potentially an emergency vehicle that needs to get through.
- Additional "No Parking" signs on Buena Vista were discussed, but since summer has ended, we will see if the traffic flow improves.

- Randi O’Brien spoke with John Miller at Autografix for signs. He made two mock up signs, which the board felt was too wordy, but enjoyed the vision.
- Amy Bloom is happy to take over the wordage on the sign.
- Kate Waldron thanks Randi for all her hard work and dedication.
- A “Welcome to Stony Creek” sign will be added entering Stony Creek. We will see if Taken for Granite will post the sign on their property as they’ve done in the past, or it will be added to the granite sign on the right side of the road entering Stony Creek.

Bi-Laws Committee

- Mark Richter states there will be a meeting this month about the Bi-Laws Committee.

Town Representative Report

- Peter Henschel reports in town, there is a survey available for you to take regarding short term rental properties. They are looking forward to hearing what the people have to say.
- The survey can be found be going to https://www.branford-ct.gov/sites/default/files/field/files-docs/community_survey_short_term_rentals.pdf
- A meeting will be held in November to discuss the findings. We want to hear from the public.
- There will be a press release about the Harbor Management Plan. We are inviting the public to hear about our complex plan, involving town money, with lots of people facilitating.
- This will impact some of our waters.
- October 15th at 6:30, in person meeting about the Costal Harbor Management Commission.
- RTM (Representative Town Meeting) will be in the spring.
- Currently discussing ways of creating a universal enforcement officer. Someone who would be available when the complaint was made.

- The blight enforcement officer was met 3 weeks ago- 150 complaints have been made since the meeting, biggest problem being landscaping. Looking at what other towns are doing to get insight.
- Pavement markings are in progress, they are working on them all throughout town. Peter Henschel will check again, if it is not finished within this month.

Stony Creek Day Committee

- The committee would like to thank all the volunteers, sponsors, family, friends, and neighbors who came, despite the unfortunate weather!
- Stony Creek Day will always be the first Saturday in September. We are hoping for many more of our neighbors to join in next year!
- Mark your Calendars: September 6, 2025

Special Events Committee/Farmers Market

- Stephen Palumbo Jr. will look into obtaining lobster pots so we can do the lobster pot tree annually.
- Matt Milano would like to discuss tree size, location.
- The tree will begin to be set up on Saturday November 29th, which we will need help from the community.
- Mark Richter talked to Unk about the electrical box at the Memorial Triangle.
- Stony Creek Pageant is December 14, which they will need help from the community
- The SCA will host a post-holiday get to know your neighbors on Sunday January 12th, 2025 with more details to follow.

Old Business

None

New Business

- Randi O'Brien called about coyotes and was left on hold, so she emailed DEEP, who won't remove them, but they can assess the area.

- The community is more concerned about the rising tides and flooding on Leetes Island Road.
- Peter Hentschel is working on a computer program and app to track the flooding better, and see how the predicted tide matches with real time tide.
- Courtney asks if a camera can be used to monitor the flooded areas.
- Stephen Palumbo Jr. motioned to adjourn and Courtney Rosenberg seconds. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Richter, Secretary