

SOUTH KINGSTOWN
WATERFRONT ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

February 14, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Commission Chairman Laramée at 7:08 p.m. at The Neighborhood Guild

MEMBERS PRESENT: L. Murphy, G. Windhurst, J. Bedell, B. Laramée, M. Sherry

MEMBERS ABSENT: T. O'Neil, R. Smith

STAFF PRESENT: T. Murphy, M. Stach, R. Zarnetske

STAFF ABSENT:

GUESTS: Perry Raso, Residents of Matunuck Village

MEETING MINUTES: February

CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Commission Chair directed that names and addresses of all residents who submitted written correspondence be read into the record. (list attached)

PUBLIC COMMENT (All items related to CRMC Public Notice 2017-12-086)

John Lee 218 Peninsula Rd

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove; of the opinion that the applicant did not demonstrate need; or accurately reflect the impact it would have on recreational use.

Diane Rodriguez Prospect Rd.

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove, noting that it is used all the time for recreation.

Marilyn Mattera

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove, noting that she and others quahog in the area. Also noted that there should be some type of protection of recreational waters similar to SK Land Trust. Asked about safety issues relative to the necessary clearance around the perimeter of the proposed site.

Perry Raso (Aquaculture Applicant) Comm. Perry Highway

Noted that the proposed oyster/scallop farm adds to the eco system, provides a habitat and bio diversity. The proposed (Segar Cove) has many users and oyster farming should be allowable. Also noted that he chose this site carefully noting that it is too deep for shell fishing; and would still allow enough room in the Cove for recreational use.

Margaret Schwab Lake Avenue

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove. Noted that she has enjoyed the pond her whole life and wants that to continue for others in the future. Witnesses the deterioration of entrance into the cove, over the years. Also noted that she is not against business.

Tom O'Brien

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove. Noted that there were over 120 letters of opposition on file at CRMC.

Michael Mainelli Prospect Road

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove noting that it is a “grab” of three acres for private business; and it is not fitting use of that water.

Robert Zarnetske, Town Manager

Clarified the Town’s role in the process noting that the Waterfront Advisory Commission would provide an advisory opinion to CRMC and notify the Town Council. The decision ultimately lies with CRMC as the pond falls under its jurisdiction as state waters.

George Goneconto

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove; and the balance of how state waters are utilized.

Maggie Hayes Cody

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove. Asked if any impact study was done; relative to the impact on abutting properties and surrounding area.

Perry Raso (Aquaculture Applicant) Comm. Perry Highway

Re-iterated that he selected the Segar Cove location because of his understanding of the area.

David Latham Comm. Perry Highway

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove. Asked about the “social carrying capacity” of the pond and why that isn’t taken into consideration when weighing applications. Also noted there are other ways that oysters can be grown.

Debra McCurdy Prospect Road

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove. Has lived on the pond for 56 years. Went clamming yesterday. It is an important recreational resource now and should be preserved for future generations.

Perry Raso (Aquaculture Applicant) Comm. Perry Highway

Mr. Raso expressed that he “truly in my heart” feel it is a proper location. It is out of the way. Has since accommodated for water skiing by pulling in the corner boundaries of the proposed site. Potter Pond is not at the 5% capacity for aquaculture as set by CRMC. Yes, it will benefit the business but is also environmentally friendly.

Eric Pullasky Prospect Road

Expressed opposition to the proposed aquaculture lease on Segar Cove. Noted that there is not a reasonable margin of safety around the proposed site.

OLD BUSINESS

A. CRMC Public Notice – File #2017-12-086 – P. Raso

Discussion took place. Commissioner Bedell noted that he visited the site and was on the pond recently. He sees the point of safety and saw how the pond could get crowded, creating competition between recreational and commercial use. Commissioner Windhurst also noted that he visited the site and is familiar with the area. Commissioner Sherry noted that he has decades of experience on the pond; and that there is no one looking out for the public's recreational interests. There is immense pressure on Potter Pond due to elimination of other areas where water skiing once took place. Compression of recreational activities is causing overcrowding and serious safety concerns.

Commissioner Sherry made a motion to object to the proposed three acre oyster and bay scallop farm in Segar Cove as detailed in CRMC file #2017-12-086; noting that it would pose significant negative impact on public recreational activity in that area. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

NO NEW BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING: The next Waterfront Advisory Commission meeting will take place on Thursday, March 1st, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Neighborhood Guild.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Windhurst and seconded by Commissioner Sherry at 8:25 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

SOUTH KINGSTOWN WATERFRONT ADVISORY COMMISSION
Correspondence received after Feb. 1st meeting.

Jane O'Leary
173 Washington St.

Joseph & Kathryn Scott
45 Peninsula Rd.

Stephen & Ann Marie Hitchery
92 Peninsula Rd.

Paul Hooper
636 Succotash Rd.

Edward & Carol Wrobel
100 Peninsula Rd.

Marilyn Mattera
62 Park Ave.

Alds Hackney
56 Ninigret Ave.

Janis & Alan Loiselle
218 Peninsula Rd.

Valerie DeMarco
196 Atlantic Ave.

Linda Loiselle & John Lee
218 Peninsula Rd.

Lyse Lepine
27 Ocean Ave.

Julie Cawoski
521 Plymouth
Greensburg, PA

Christopher & Jennifer Erickson
29 Ninigret Ave.

Kim D. & Matthew McHugh
95 Peninsula Rd.

Phil Capaldi
15 Baneberry Trail
Sauderstown, RI

Mary-Lyn Hedison Flynn
172 Ocean Ave.

Michael Mainelli
142 Prospect Rd.

Joel Thomson
288 Prospect Rd.

Herb Mansfield
20 High Meadow Lane

Stephen & Evelyn Smith Firshein
94 Ocean Ave.

Deb and Terry McCurdy
264 Prospect Rd.

John & Cynthia Larned
11 Ocean Ave.

Gary Enos & Jane Keane Enos
267 Prospect Rd.

Donna McBurney
40 Potter Lane

John Leventhal & Bevery Hodgson
150 Ocean Ave.

Joesph & Carolyn McCooey
138 Peninsula Rd.

Mr. Perry Raso
Commodore Perry Hghway.
(submitted letter from RIDEM to CRMC)

John & Lorraine Phillips
214 Ocean Ave.

Bob and Cheryl Mahoney
80 Peninsula Rd.

Carol Kalfian
200 Ocean Ave.

Margaret and Stephen Wilcox
175 Peninsula Rd.

Gary and Jane Enos
267 Prospect Road

Catherine Carey Mercurio
50 Park Ave.

James Dillon
34 Ocean Ave.

Lorraine & Mark Parsons
53 Peninsula Rd.

Sheila Dillon
34 Ocean Ave.

John & Kathleen Uhl
8 Peninsula Rd.

Mary Kate Dillon
34 Ocean Ave.

Leslie Milner
160 Ocean Ave.

Patrick Putnam
34 Ocean Ave.

Kevin & Kathleen Moore
30 Ocean Ave.

Teresa Dillon
34 Ocean Ave.