

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Fishers Island Ferry District  
November 7, 2022

Chair Ahrens called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District (the "Ferry District") to order on November 7, 2022 at 4:00 PM at the Island Community Center and via Zoom.

Commissioners Jim Reid and Dianna Shillo were present. Commissioner Burnham arrived at 4:24pm. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, John Haney, Dave McCall and Deanna Ross. There were no members of the public present. Commissioner Cashel was absent.

Chair Ahrens established that a quorum was present. Everyone in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

**Correspondence/Public Comment** - Mr. McCall reported that a letter was received from Mr. Gordon Murphy requesting a waiver on the parking fees at the New London terminal due to medical issues with a family member in Connecticut. The BOC approves.

**Minutes**

**RESOLUTION 2022-175**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the following minutes: October 24, 2022

Moved by: Commissioner Shillo  
Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Warrant**

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 176**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated November 7, 2022, in the amount of \$54,531.54

Moved by: Commissioner Reid  
Seconded by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

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**Budget Mod**

**RESOLUTION 2022-177**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby amends the **2022** Fishers Island Ferry District budget as follows:

**Increase Appropriations**

SM.5610.4.000.000                      Expense: Airport Contracted Expenses    \$ 261

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\$ 261

**Decrease Appropriations**

SM.5610.2.000.000                      Expense: Airport Capital Expenditures    \$ 261

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\$ 261

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**RESOLUTION 2022 – 178**

Whereas Marine Mechanic (FIFD) Michael Franco wishes to change his working status from full-time to part-time; and

Therefore it is RESOLVED that effective January 3, 2023 Michael Franco will retire from his full-time Marine Mechanic (FIFD) position and on January 4, 2023 is appointed as a part-time Marine Mechanic (FIFD) at rate in effect January 3,2023 .

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner Reid  
Ayes: A. Ahrens, J. Reid and D. Shillo  
Nays: None

**Elliot Bay Proposal** - Mr. Cook shared the Elliot Bay Proposal with the BOC. Discussion ensued. The proposal would include an initial site visit to evaluate the current vessels, terminals and operating

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schedule and meet with the BOC and management. Commissioner Ahrens asked if we were small potatoes. Mr. Cook responded he does not believe that and they only do so many ferries at a time and have designed a wide range of ferries with varying size of operations and we would have a project manager. Mr. Cook is on the agenda for the upcoming ICB meeting and will share with the community that the process is getting started. A special meeting will be held later in the week to approve the Elliot Bay Proposal.

### **Management Reports**

**Race Point/Munnatawket Update** - Mr. Haney updated the BOC. Commissioner Ahrens asked if there were any concerns regarding staffing after the Full time to Part time status changes of Mr. Franco and Mr. Mirabelli. Mr. Haney reported that there are no immediate concerns and still in good standing with the captains. The new mechanic Josh Hartley is working out very well and Mr. Franco will remain on for special projects. Mr. Henry is now Full time and came with a 25 ton license but will progress in the pipeline for Captain.

Race Point has had no issues in the last few weeks. Mr. Haney has been in touch with Cummins and asked them to respond to some questions regarding the engines and especially the turbo design and questions about product reliability. We are on our forth turbo and currently they now want to replace the turbo on the starboard engine. Mr. Haney is hoping to hear from Cummins soon and will likely wait for Cummins to service the boat when the boat is in its yard period. Mr. Haney reported that he heard from Twin Disc regarding approval of the backup emergency station in the bridge.

Munnatawket will be out of service next week to perform some repairs to the bow thruster, painting and more maintenance.

Mr. Haney has requested an excursion permit from the USCG to carry more passengers on the cargo runs when Race Point goes out in January. Mr. Haney has requested 35 passengers plus 4 crew members and if approved would go into effect December 1, 2022 through April 1, 2023. Currently only 16 passengers can be on a fuel cargo run. Management has implemented a number system and passengers will need a number in order to get on the fuel cargo boats.

**Elizabeth Field Sign** - Mr. Cook expressed he would like a sign to be placed on the airport building or at the entrance with the name and established in 1926, similar to the one on the freight building. Mr. Pierce Rafferty has a picture of the original sign. Mr. Cook and Mr. McCall will create a mock up as to what the sign would look like and share with the BOC at a future time.

**Other** - Mr. Cook reported that Mr. Franco loves projects and will be doing some updating of the bathrooms in the Fishers Island Ferry Office.

### **Executive Session**

At 16:33 it was RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing rental properties.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens  
Seconded by: Commissioner Shillo

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Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

At 16:44 it was RESOLVED that the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Moved by: Commissioner Ahrens

Seconded by: Commissioner Reid

Ayes: A. Ahrens, H. Burnham, J. Reid and D. Shillo

Nays: None

**Other** - Discussion ensued regarding Friday late night boats and if possible to push the last boat back to give people more time on the mainland. Mr. Cook reported that he did get a request from Ms. Alex Norton requesting two Fridays a month to be pushed back to 9:30 pm to accommodate the ski club. Mr. Haney reported he thinks it is something that the Ferry could do.

**Next BOC Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 4:00 PM at the Fishers Island Ferry Office.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner A. Ahrens, seconded by Commissioner H. Burnham, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 pm.