## Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners Fishers Island Ferry District November 25, 2019

Chairman Ahrens, at the Fishers Island Community Center, called a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District ("the Ferry District") to order on November 25, 2019 at 1:00 PM.

Commissioners William Bloethe and Heather Burnham were present. Also in attendance were Geb Cook, Gordon Murphy and Deanna Ross. Members of the public included Mere Doyen. Commissioners Peter Rugg and Dianna Shillo were absent.

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

Correspondence/Public Comment – Mr. Cook reported that no correspondence was received. There was no public comment.

Minutes

RESOLUTION 2019 - 163

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the September 30, 2019 meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham Nays: None

RESOLUTION 2019-164

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the minutes of the October 15, 2019 meeting.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham Nays: None

Warrant

**RESOLUTION 2019 - 165** 

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District hereby approves the Warrant dated November 25, 2019, in the amount of \$247,837.18.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham Nays: None

## Management Reports

Marine Update - Mr. Cook updated the BOC. Mr. Cook reported that Munnatawket is at Fairhaven shipyard and work is moving along. The new mufflers have been installed and is due back in the middle of December. A few change orders are expected but remains well below budget. Mr. Cook reported that the Ferry District won the VW grant for \$819,260 for re-power of Race Point. The BOC would like to congratulate management for this achievement.

Silver Eel Update - Mr. Cook reviewed the Profit & Loss financial statement through October 2019. Without labor included, there was a net income of \$1,458. With labor included, there was a net loss of \$22,953; however, that labor cost comes off of the P&L labor cost. There were very few times where an additional captain was needed and in most instances, captains who were running the Silver Eel would have been working on another boat. The goal for next year will be to increase capacity along with an increase in fares for non-commuters. Silver Eel will be hauled out for the winter later this week. Discussion ensued regarding use of Silver Eel for 10-12 months as opposed to only 6 months. Commissioner Burnham wishes to have continued conversations with the school for future use of Silver Eel for school events.

Fare Update - Management and the BOC reviewed and discussed the new proposed fares after adjustments were made from the last BOC meeting. Commissioner Burnham has proposed a discounted pack for non-resident vehicles that come to the island frequently through the peak and off-peak seasons. The BOC has agreed to a discounted 10 pack for non-resident vehicles. Mr. Cook has agreed to hold small informal public meetings in the upcoming weeks. In addition, a formal public hearing will take place on a date yet to be determined.

Theater Update - Mr. Murphy reported that Friends of the Fishers Island Theater group are expected to meet later this week. Mr. Murphy will send out an RFP for purchasing the theater in the winter.

Legal – LeFerve Settlement

**RESOLUTION 2019 - 166** 

WHEREAS, the District was presented with a settlement by its insurance carrier with 100% of the claim being paid from insurance; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District authorizes Mr. Cook to execute the settlement agreement and all ancillary documents; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District approves the settlement with the Plaintiff and directs Mr. Geb Cook to execute the settlement agreement and all ancillary docu-

ments and further authorizes Mr. Cook to process the insurance payments through the Ferry District's accounting and payroll systems subject to the approval of the Town of Southold.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham Seconded by: Commissioner A. Ahrens Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham Nays: None

Legal – Retainer

**RESOLUTION 2019 - 167** 

Whereas the Ferry District requires certain general and specific legal expertise including corporate and municipal operations and governance and general counsel activities.

Now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Commissioners of the Ferry District authorizes Mr. Geb Cook to execute a professional services agreement with the law firm Blank Rome LLP to provide the Ferry District with representation and legal advice in contract, regulatory, compliance and operational matters before the New York State government.

Moved by: Commissioner H. Burnham Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham Nays: None

HR

**RESOLUTION 2019 – 168** 

Whereas Mr. Christopher Newell has completed his training and management, recommend s that he be promoted to full captain.

Therefore, it is resolved with effect October 10, 2019 to increase Mr. Newel's Captain (FIFD) salary to \$28.00 per hour and simultaneously Mr. Newell is released from his part-time Deckhand (FIFD) position.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens Seconded by: Commissioner W. Bloethe Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham Nays: None

The BOC would like to congratulate Mr. Newell and thanks him for his service. Mr. Cook reported that 16-year-old Waterford High School student Austin Wshenfelder has accepted an unpaid internship and will be shadowing crew on the boat.

Other:

Sparkman and Stephens - Mr. Cook reported that the owner of Newport broker Sparkman and Stephens (S&S) has expressed interest in becoming a player of the Ferry District's future boat design. The S&S

was involved in the design of Munnatawket and would like to make a presentation to the BOC. The BOC has agreed to the presentation. Mr. Cook will respond.

2020 Calendar - Mr. Murphy will forward the proposed calendar to the BOC later today.

Executive Session At 14:14, the following resolution was proposed: RESOLVED, that the Commission move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Moved by: Commissioner W. Bloethe Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham Nays: None

At 14:35, the following resolution was proposed:

RESOLVED, That the Commission exit from Executive Session and resume Public Session.

Moved by: Commissioner A. Ahrens Seconded by: Commissioner H. Burnham Ayes: A. Ahrens, W. Bloethe and H. Burnham Nays: None

Next Scheduled Meeting is Monday, December 9, 2019 @ 4:30 pm at the Fishers Island Community Center.

## Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, and on motion made by Commissioner A. Ahrens, seconded by Commissioner W. Bloethe, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.