Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District

A SPECIAL meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Fishers Island Ferry District was held in the FI Community Center on **Thursday**, **July 7**, **2011** at 11:00 AM.

Present were Commissioners: Brooks, Burnham, duPont, Edwards and Rafferty Commissioner Brooks opened the meeting; a quorum was present. Six members of the community attended.

Conference Call will Marcia and Tom Marien; Marien & Company, LLC

The Chairman called the meeting to order and announced that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the irregularities surrounding the district's ATM machine, and in particular findings of auditors to the District, Marien & Company that the District was missing a total of 305 \$20 bills, aggregating a loss of \$6100. The Chairman noted that at present there was no evidence pointing toward the culpability of any person or entity. However, consistent with advice from District legal counsel, the chairman reported having filed a report of this shortage on June 23 with both the Town of Southold Police and the District Attorney's office for Suffolk County. The Chairman then initiated a conference call to Marien & Company, and the following discussion ensued:

ATM files and receipts have been received for the years 2007 through 2011, but the 2010 receipts appeared to be missing from the file. Management will continue to search boxes now in storage for the remaining files and receipts, sending them to Marien & Company when they are found. Nina Schmid stated that in talking to John Cushman several years ago, she thought that some items needed to be saved for three years while other items needed to be saved for five years.

To continue with the investigation, three options were available, depending on the availability of the files and receipts.

- 1. If all the records were found the remaining investigation would continue as scheduled and cost approximately \$1,000.00
- 2. If all of the records were not found, the accumulation of various vendor reports would be necessary and cost approximately \$2,000.00.
- 3. Research bank records to insure that all of the checks have been cashed and that the proceeds have been accounted for a cost of \$500.00.
- 4. The reports should take approximately two weeks, depending on the bank's response.

On a MOTION by Commissioner Rafferty; SECONDED by Commissioner Brooks; Be it resolved that the District appropriate up to \$2,500.00 to continue the investigation into the missing funds in the ATM machine.

AYES: Commissioners Brooks, Burnham, duPont, Edwards and Rafferty NAYS: None

Public Comment

Joe Henderson asked if the ATM machine had the ability to count the money. He was told that the current machine was not that sophisticated. He asked if there were machines available that actually counted the money and was told that there were some on the market, but that they were more expensive.

Marilyn Yakaitis asked if the machine were like the bank machines that would allow deposits and cash checks. She was told that you could check your bank balance or use your credit card for ATM withdrawals. No other services were available.

Assistant Manager Nina Schmid asked that if a report was sent to the Suffolk County District Attorney's office on June 23rd and then Tom and Nina met with the auditor on June 30th to review the draft audit which was then presented to the public on July 1^{st,} why wasn't management informed until a meeting held the morning of July 7th at 9:30 AM. Commissioner Brooks responded that he was acting on behalf of the Board and following the instructions of legal counsel. The report was about irregularities in the ATM machine and did not name any personnel. Commissioner Brooks, on behalf of the Board, expressed his full support and backing of the Ferry District employees.

Ms. Schmid also inquired about the machine being subject to tampering from an outside source. She was told that this is highly improbable.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at 5:00 PM in the Fishers Island Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Thomas F. Doherty Manager/Secretary