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 **Tuesday**, **July 12**, **2011** at 5:00 PM.

Present were Commissioners: Brooks, duPont, Edwards and Rafferty Commissioner Brooks opened the meeting; a quorum was present.

New Business

- 1. The crew has asked that if they are working on the boat can family members join them as non paying guests, if they do not get off the boat on Fishers Island. Discussion included the possibility of distractions to the crew while underway as well as the documenting procedure for the guests on board. The possibility of a Family Day trip was also discussed. The board asked management to consider a solution, with some input from the crew.
- 2. A new deck hand needs to be hired. Mark has found a good candidate. On a **MOTION** by Commissioner duPont; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Brooks; Resolved that John Testa of Lyme, CT be hired as a part time deck hand, effective July 21, 2011 at a rate of \$10.29 per hour.

Ayes: Commissioners Brooks, duPont, Edwards and Rafferty. NAYES: None.

- 3. Property Insurance renews on August 1st. This year there are two potential bidders. Bids will be reviewed on Thursday, July 21st at 5:00 PM.
- 4. The new Voting Requirements have been received from the attorneys. They have recommended a small change to paragraph #7 "Other Circumstances". Once changed the new rules will be posted on the web site, with an intro explaining that these requirements will be voted on by the Board at the July 19th meeting.
- 5. Since it was not budgeted, monies must be appropriated for the contractual payment to Eastern Connecticut Conservation for the Fish Ladder Project.

On a **MOTION** by Commissioner duPont; **SECONDED** by Commissioner Rafferty; Resolved that \$30,000 be APPROPRIATED from the General Fund Balance and submitted into the Fish Ladder line item.

AYES: Commissioners Brooks, duPont, Edwards and Rafferty. NAYES: None

- 6. Marien & Co. has submitted a draft ATM policy. After some discussion of implementation and the possibility of editing the policy, it was decided to offer to rent the ATM to an outside party who would be willing to maintain it and also provide some rental income for it. Management will explore the possibility of renting the machine to outside parties.
- 7. Preliminary draft 2012 budget figures were reviewed by the Board. A line by line discussion of both revenues and expenses were held. The new 2% Property Tax Cap for New York State was brought to the attention of the Board. John

Cushman will be asked for some further information. Commissioner Edwards inquired about delaying the final budget submission until after the Columbus Day weekend. A letter will be sent to Southold asking about such a possibility. Captain Easter has submitted his preliminary budget figures, which need to be implemented into the draft budget. Follow up workshops will be scheduled.

- 8. Commissioner Edwards asked about new metal freight carriers that were in the current budget. They have not been ordered, but will be this coming week.
- 9. The Board asked about the progress of ordering name tags for the crew. The crew was to be polled, but no results are known. More research will be done and the tags will be ordered as soon as possible.
- 10. Rents were discussed and the Board would like, going forward, a detailed income and expense sheet for each individual property. The State Police barracks were discussed and the feeling of the Board is that the Ferry District should not be solely responsible for housing the State Police. Other contributors must be found to help share in the expense of maintaining the barracks.

Public Comment

Nancy Parsons commented on the great trip she had on one of the published charters. She was happy to see a female deckhand. She does not believe that a ferry employee should be a teller at the Annual Election and the voting requirements should be posted at the Post Office.

Bob Evans stated that corporate owned properties should not be allowed to vote. He was told that the voting is based on property ownership as well as voting rights. Bob also said that the Ferry district should not be in the ATM business.

Deb Shillo asked how to control the ticketing and head count for visiting family members of the crew. She also inquired about the starting wage of the newly hired deckhand.

Jay Parsons said that bill counting machines used for the ATM work just fine. He suggested to rent out the ATM to retain some income from the machine

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 6:37 PM.

Thomas F. Doherty Manager/Secretary