



Cliff Walk Commission

Minutes

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

5:00pm: Martin Recreation Center

IN ATTENDANCE

Commission Members: Lesley Brooking Elms, John Hirschboeck, Peter Janaros (Chair), Dave McLaughlin

City of Newport: Scott Wheeler, Building & Grounds Supervisor/Tree Warden.

Citizens: Peter Rice, Ryan Gainer

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from August 16, 2017 were approved.

II. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Status of repairs between 40 Steps to Ruggles

The area next to the restroom at 40 Steps will soon be seeded. Still remaining "punch list" items include new fencing at the Overlook, installation of a second hand rail on the Webster steps and the removal of detour signs and other debris. The trail marker at the Overlook will be re-mounted, not drilled into the concrete. These projects are long overdue and the commission expressed frustration that the contractor has not been responsive.

B. End of Walk at Bailey's Beach – signage status

Two directional signs have been mounted and John has ordered the 36" X 24" locator map sign artwork. The bicycle racks in the median remain as an issue. The shards on the path entrance have been removed. The Warner's requested that the vegetation along the path adjacent to their home be cutback.

C. Maintenance Issues:

1. Railings at Ruggles and Anglesea: no action taken
2. Bench rusting at 40 Steps: no action taken
3. Restrooms: the painting of the bathroom walls will be undertaken this fall by city staff or contractor. The cleaning checklist is not being kept up. Scott will pursue.
4. Erosion behind the Breakers: Next steps involve placing snow fencing around the remaining goat paths to the north of the viewing platform. This awaits completion of the Breaker's master plan.
5. Tunnel pathways: 24" X 24" X 2" concrete stones have been identified that will serve as the footpath. Next step is for the City to install.
6. The sunscreen dispenser: will be removed.
7. Marine Ave.: Scott and his crew have moved stones near the outflow pipe to enhance safety.
8. Emptying of trash receptacles: Lesley has been monitoring and has reports from Clean City that she will review at the next CWC meeting.

D. Marine Avenue, Seaview and other rights of way

The infrastructure project at Marine Ave. remains on the list for possible *Island Waters* grant funding, but is no longer a priority due to the significant increase in the estimated project cost that Peter is asking be reviewed.

E. Concessions on the Walk & on-going monitoring

No violations have been evidenced or reported.

F. Brass markers and new map at Ledge Road

Lesley is to locate a punch where an inscribed "CW" could be used to install on small brass markers along the rocky trail section of the Walk near Ledge Rd.

Mr. Warner has suggested the CWC install a 4th map at Ledge Rd. to help guide traffic exiting the trail at that point. Funding is an issue and the CWC asked that Ryan raise the subject with Mr. Warner to determine if he'd care to contribute to its installation (approximately \$2,000).

G. Future repairs/improvements and fundraising

Dave M. will provide recommendations regarding donating by cell phone at the next CWC meeting. Donating by a parking meter was also discussed and all agreed it deserved further exploration. www.parkingtoday.com/articledetails.php?id=1338

H. DEM and RIDOT "TIP" program; Green Economy bond

Scott advised that the D.E.M. Open Space grant opportunities and corresponding scoring criteria will be explored with the Director to determine possible candidates. One related area that could be addressed is the widening of the Walk between Memorial Blvd. and 40 Steps, however this may require tearing up current asphalt and installing a totally new walk.

I. Coordination of Google website

John reported that Google has yet to change the listed phone number for the Walk to Discover Newport and will continue to monitor. Peter will contact Vic Farmer to suggest that his CliffWalk.com site has information for contacting Discover Newport = (401) 849-8048, if they have tourist-related questions.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Entryway/exit to the Walk @ Marble House

John left word regarding the possibility of a future exit/entry to the Walk at the Marble House teahouse with Katy Ryan at the Preservation Society of Newport County and awaits a call back. He invited her to the next CWC meeting.

B. Second Restroom

No action taken.

C. Input into CRMC regulatory process, specifically Ledge Rd. area

Peter will provide input to CRMC if any activity/construction or modifications are proposed in the agreed upon "buffer zone."

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

The next CWC meeting is scheduled for October 18, 5:15pm