



Cliff Walk Commission Minutes

5pm, February 17, 2015
Newport Public Library

- **Commission Members attendance:** John Hirschboeck, Dave McLaughlin, Bob Power (Chair)
- **For the City of Newport:** Scott Wheeler: Tree, Parks & Building Supervisor

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the 1/21/15 CWC meeting were approved.

II. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Status of repairs between Webster St. and 40 Steps

The City received Commonwealth Engineering's plans and bid specifications, which included addressing cliff erosion south of 40 Steps and repairs to the masonry at the overlook. Additional identified work includes the steps at Webster, stone dust at the overlook and the fixing the sidewalk leading from Shepard Avenue to the Breakers gate. Dave asked to review the plans with Scott and will provide his feedback to the Commission.

Scott will be applying for \$347,000 in additional funds to cover these estimated costs that will be broken down by location. Once approval from the R.I. Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission is received, the recommendation will be passed on to the Federal Government for final approval and the job will be put out for bid. Construction would begin fall 2015.

To date, the following funding has been approved (or is pending approval) for post Hurricane Sandy repairs:

1. \$ 3,200,000
 2. 2,000,000
 3. 254,000
 4. 347,000 (pending)
- \$5,801,000

B. Routine Maintenance Report

Due to the heavy snow, spring maintenance has been postponed.

C. Photo documentation/mileage markers

Dave will be taking photos for documentation once the snow melts. The mileage marker placements will follow. John will contact the Boy Scouts to see if they can assist Dave with the markings.

D. CRMC right of Ways

No feedback from CRMC yet regarding Marine Avenue designation as a legal right of way to the beach. Dave will continue to pursue. He and Scott are also exploring means of creating green infrastructures that would identify, assist in drainage and protect these access points along the Walk.

E. No Smoking Ordinance

Dave sent a note to the acting city manager asking that the draft ordinance written by Scott appear on the 2/25 City Council Docket. The state house is also preparing similar legislation covering state beaches.

F. Trail Marker Status & sponsorships to date

Trail Markers

John provided Scott with the QR code plate that will be installed on the first test marker at the Chanler as soon as possible to determine its durability and security. Connor Flynn and the Boy Scouts will be creating the 15 additional marker posts with supplies provided by the City. John and Scott will identify these locations once the snow melts and John will order the additional 15 QR coded plates.

Sponsorships

John advised that he is now offering 3-year sponsorships of each of the 15 markers for \$500 each. To date, he has sold two and has pending approvals for 4 more. This would total \$3,000 that will go to cover the costs of the map panels for the Walk at Memorial and on the exterior restroom wall at 40 Steps. Clean Ocean Access will have sponsorship of the 16th marker (# 4) at the lookout in return for their initial contribution and support of the program. Additional sponsorship income will go to development of a rack card for the visitor's center.

Scott will review the Panier estimate for the two panels and request quotes from another two suppliers. He and John will review final copy for the map.

T-shirts

John advised that he discussed the T-shirt design with Joe Nicholson who had no issues with the "Warning" design. John will ask Worldways to finalize designs and institute the program via the app and TeeSpring, the shirt supplier.

G. Additional bench at Rosecliff

Scott has approved the requisition.

H. Menco Property Repairs

Peter was to report on the status of this project and will be requested to do so at the March meeting.

I. Cliff Terrace

Scott visited the area of concern that Peter identified at the last CWC meeting and could not find any severe erosion or inaccessibility issues on the grass pathway to the Walk.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.