



Cliff Walk Commission Minutes

July 15, 2015

5PM: Newport Public Library

Commission Members in Attendance: Dave Downes, John Hirschboeck, Peter Janaros, Bob Power (Chair).

Ombudsman: Bill Corcoran

Media: Sean Flynn, Newport Daily News; Brian Crandall (WJAR NBC - Channel 10)

Residents: John, Jay and Michael Erickson

I. MINUTES from 6/17/15 CWC meeting were approved

II. CURRENT BUSINESS

A. Repairs between Webster St. and 40 Steps

1. Scott Wheeler of the City provided the following update:

I have contacted Katherine B. Jurczyk the Senior Historic Preservation Specialist with the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission. She has the modified agreement ready to go but is still waiting on written confirmation from the NPS following the verbal approval provided. She is reaching out again to NPS for the status. Spring (2016) construction seems the most likely scenario at this point.

2. Dave Downes observed severe erosion at the lookout cliff face that will be part of the repairs.

B. Summer maintenance update

Weekly mowing underway; not yet started mid-summer fence clearance

C. Stone placement/unevenness south of the second tunnel

Dave M. was to gather a work group together to secure the loose stones.

D. Fencing Status resolution between Bailey's Beach and Ledge Road

Bob observed new black fencing behind the Pell property that is close to the hedges with a narrow passageway. Bob has told the owner that approval from CRMC would be required for the installation of the fence and hedging within 200 feet of the shoreline. Peter will contact Dave M. to have him alert CRMC as to the new installations.

E. Photo Journal documentation/mileage markers status

Dave M. was to have completed the photo journal. He will contact the Boy Scouts regarding the markers.

F. CRMC rights of way at Marine Avenue and others, including Green Infrastructure

1. Z-24 code legal documentation for the right of way

2. URI "GRIP" status/Sarah Atkins and areas for further action/investigation

GRIP meeting held in Newport, little new to report beyond presentation to commission, delayed to the September meeting.

G. No smoking ordinance and sign placement

Signs are on order. Bob suggested the placement of these signs be limited to major entrances.

H. Trail Marker Program & Maps Status

John has sent the final map copy to the commission for comments and will forward to the designers for final layout.

Bill Corcoran generously agreed to sponsor the Easton's Beach Trail Marker for \$500, bringing the total in the Cliff Walk restricted fund to \$5,987. A portion of these funds will be used to print the two maps and purchase the "Pannier" stand at the Memorial Blvd. entrance and frame at the 40 Steps Restroom.

I. Menco property repairs

Peter has spoken to the engineer and soil testing is now scheduled for July 22.

J. Economic Impact Survey

John will be meeting with Salve to finalize the questionnaire and report back at the next Commission meeting. The focus will be on visitors, rather than locals.

III. New Business

A. New memorial benches at Bailey's and for Lori and John Adams

The Commission approved of a memorial bench for Lori and John Adams to be installed at the exit from the Walk at Bailey's Beach. The Commission requested that a letter of approval be sent to the City from Bailey's Beach confirming their approval.

B. "Love Locks"

After extensive discussions, it was agreed that the orange locks should be painted black and that the commission will monitor further developments. The commission discourages their placement along the Walk.

Next CWC Meeting: August 19, 5pm: Newport Public Library