

**COASTAL POND MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY SUBCOMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Town Hall Council Chambers
Charlestown, Rhode Island**

October 20, 2021

Chairman Rob Lyons declared a quorum present. Called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Present:

Rob Lyons, Rich Thomsen, Bill Wilson, Lynn Macalister

Absent: Art Ganz

Town Staff:

Thomas Toscano - Harbor Master - Absent

Deb Carney, Charlestown Town Council, CPMC Liaison - Absent

Secretary's Report: Rich Thomsen moved to accept the 2.12.2021 meeting minutes, Lynn Macalister seconded. Minutes were approved.

Old Business:

Rob Lyons read a letter sent to the Town Council President Deb Carney regarding the committee progress as of the 2.12.2021 meeting. Letter is attached.

The availability of funds in the Capital Improvement Budget for Engineer Site Feasibility Studies was questioned. The clerk's office provided a copy of the budget, 15,000 was approved for 3 studies to be allowed as needed.

New Business:

Improvements recommended for Town Council consideration.

A. Launch Ramp Parking Charlestown Beach

Issue – Parking lot not large enough to accommodate trailers.

The lot fills with cars not using the launch but going to the beach, either because the beach lot is full or to avoid daily use fee.

Recommendation – Expand Parking area to accommodate additional cars / trailers

Currently the entrance to the launch parking is not monitored. Redesign the entrances in a way that the launch users go through the Guard House when open.

B. Lots 9-317, 318, 319, 320 – These lots are located adjacent to the Charlestown Beach Road Just prior to the bridge on the Green Hill Pond side of the road.

Issue – The bridge is used for fishing, crabbing and views of the Pond. This creates a safety issue with cars traveling over the bridge

Recommendation – Make a Park along the shore of the lots listed. Providing safe access to the pond for fishing, crabbing, and provide benches for views of the Pond. Provide a bike rack and benches for users. Clear Invasive plant in the area.

C. Town Dock, Town Dock Road

Issue – The vegetation has grown up to the road severely limiting parking.

Storm water runoff goes directly into the pond

There is a historic fresh water source completely blocked by Invasives

Recommendation – Review the property survey to determine if parking can be provided along the road shoulder and expand the parking close to the dock.

Design a plan to properly control storm water runoff

Clear the area around the historic fresh water source with seating

Provide a dock side kayak launcher to allow public access to the pond.

D. lots 22 & 23 on West Beach Road between Ashaway Colony Road and Sandpiper Lane belonging to the Charlestown Land Trust.

Issue – There is no legal public access point to the Quonnie Pond Breachway east wall.

Recommendation – Establish a joint venture or some working relationship between the CLT and the Town to provide public access to the breachway via CLT lots.

Lynn Macalister will invite a CLT representation to our next meeting to explore further.

Public Comment - none

Next Meeting is to be scheduled on November 10, 2021 at 10 am, TC chambers

Upon completion of the agenda Rob Lyons adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM