

Harbor View Association – General Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2017

Following Breakfast with the Board, the general meeting commenced at 10:50 AM by Bill Greim, HVA President.

Review of July 2017 Minutes:

A motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and the motion approved.

Invited Guest Speaker: Charter Reform Coalition:

The guest speaker reported that a bipartisan committee of 9 people was appointed in March 2016. The committee met over ~ 16 months studied the town charter in detail.

Three public hearings were conducted over that time period.

There are three main provisions/changes being proposed:

1. Full-time Town Manager (est \$130k) – responsible for day-to-day town operations. Would still have a Board of Selectmen and First Selectman. First Selectman would become a part time position without benefits (est cost of \$20k versus current \$100k)
The First Selectman would become the “face of the town”.
The Board of Selectmen would make/guide town policies.
2. Board of Finance – propose budget and work with the Director of Finance; present to the Board of Selectmen and to the town. Presently there is no Board of Finance.
3. Town Planner (est \$80k) – currently a part-time consultant service at an estimated cost of \$40k-50k. Focus on future planning (i.e. to make Clinton marketable).

The proposal was presented to the Board of Selectmen on July 5th and it was dismissed based on a vote of 3 to 2. Based on this dismissal, the proposal is going to the November vote with only minor changes.

A petition was presented by the Commission to give the town’s people the opportunity to vote. This would only include residents registered to vote in Clinton.

The deadline for the vote to go to the town is 8/21 and 10% of all voters is needed (~971).

A meeting attendee asked if the petition is all or none and the speaker did not know the answer.

The guest speaker suggested those interested to look at towns that already have a structure like what is being proposed: East Hampton, North Branford, West Hartford, Plainville.

The estimated next difference in cost (salaries) is ~\$70k; with the inclusion of the Town Manager this would be ~ \$110k.

A. Kravitz mentioned that the town currently has an ~ \$50mm enterprise/budget with elections every two years. He felt that the proposal would improve the management of the town.

A petition was passed for signatures of those in favor that had Clinton as a voting address.

President’s Report: (Bill Greim)

Bill reported that a member brought up the topic of non-owners parking and using the beaches.

Bill reminded residents not to confront offenders if uncomfortable doing so and to call the police as HVA beaches are “private property”.

Treasurer’s Report: (Barri Belfanti)

Barri reported the following account balances:

- Checking ~ \$27k
- Savings - \$12k
- Jetty – \$16k (with an additional ~ \$1000 committed)

There are 163 paid members which translates to 74% members in good standing (MIGS).

Bill reminded members that Barri continues to serve as Treasurer but a replacement Treasurer is needed.

Social Committee: (Christine Marotta)

Christine reminded those present that the last planned social event of the year is the Year End party and raffle. The theme is All American and it will be a potluck. Mark calendars for September 2nd.

Old Business: Jetty/Beach Restoration (Bill G)

Bill confirmed that HVA is on a 5 year cycle with the current approvals for jetty/beach improvements. More action/commitments to get the work as outlined completed.

A video has been added to the HVA website which clearly shows the ineffective state of the “old” jetties.

The Biondi’s have coordinated great prizes/donation for a raffle with all proceeds going directly to the jetty/beach fund.

Bill asked all residents/members to support the raffle and/or donate to the fund. The raffle is intended to supplement direct donations.

New Business:

A member asked about the effectiveness of the rocks (rip rap) on Center Beach. Bill explained that the rip rap is working as expected and were intended to be exposed.

New Business: Speed/Stop Signs on Uncas (Bill G)

Bill reported that the state has approved a reduction in speed limit on Uncas Road to 20 MPH.

White strips will be added to the road with the new stop signs on Uncas Road.

Members raised concern regarding the lack of attention to the stop signs on West Road near the beaches. It was suggested that HVA request that cross walks be re-painted since the originals were removed with the last repaving project.

- Bill will contact the town regarding the cross-walk repainting.

The HVA general meeting was concluded at 11:40 AM.

Submitted by Christine Marotta.

Direct questions and corrections to: harbor.view.association@gmail.com