

Town Board/Parks Committee Meeting August 30, 2010

James Parent called the special joint meeting of the Baileys Harbor Town Board and Baileys Harbor Parks Committee to order at 7:00PM in the meeting room at the Town Hall. Present were James Parent, Robert Schultz, Barbara Anschutz, Peter Jacobs, James Rossol, Sean Moroney, Patrick Keehan, Michael LeClair, Michael Meulemans, Steve Parent, John Meredith and 4 visitors. Roberta Thelen and Douglas Smith were absent.

Chairman received signed verification from Clerk that the agendas were properly posted. Motion made/second Peter/Barb to accept the agenda. Carried.

Discuss/decide bids for repairs to the cupola on the Town Hall – Received only one proposal, which was from Peil Construction in the amount \$5088.10. Motion made/second Bob/Barb to accept Peil Construction LLC's proposal for the repair of the cupola on the Town Hall roof. Carried. Barb will call Peil Construction.

Discussion on/possible approval of a bulkhead line ordinance in relation to the proposed Anclam Park landscaping plan – There were some issues on the bulkhead line as it pertains to the landscaping plan and as it pertains to future beach maintenance/grading. Steve Parent and John Meredith were present to talk about this subject. Steve explained that along any lake in the state there is an ordinary high water mark. The line at Anclam has been established and agreed to by the DNR. Any work that's done below the line requires a permit. Right now there are two active permits. One is a five year permit that allows us to do any grading we want to make it user friendly and get rid of any grass, weeds and erosion problems. There is also a 5-year permit for removal of cladophora. The problem is that those permits are limited in time and scope and there is a cost. What John's plan is, is to bring sand and plantings into the beach, which is something that is normally very difficult to get a permit for. He is proposing several steps, the first of which is to apply for a permit to apply a structure (dunes, steps, etc.). The second thing is to pass a bulkhead line ordinance, which would basically be the beach. That would allow the Town to do the things John has on his plan. There is a \$500 one time fee, then \$100/year for the next five years. The lease can then be renewed for 3 more 5-year periods. The downside is the permits for beach grooming would go away. The reason they would allow this is for health/safety due to E. Coli concerns. We wouldn't be able to do the grading that was done before, such as removing some the grasses. One the current permit runs out, chances are it will not be renewed. The best we could hope for is a one time permit, not one that continues for 5 years.

Mary Christensen and Jean Ehmke questioned what the overall goal of the project was. Mary feels the jetty should be gotten rid of. Jean was concerned that the plan seems to take away the beach, with the grasses that are being suggested. Jim P. stated that that is not the intent.

Steve Parent and John Meredith explained that the bulkhead line ordinance is needed to do any work below the high water mark and that the DNR will not approve the landscaping plan until the bulkhead line is in place. John also explained that he balanced

beach, park, wildlife and water management in the plan. Jean was still concerned that the grasses will become overgrown and we won't be able to remove them. Bob explained that the purpose of this meeting tonight is simply get a clearer idea of what the bulkhead line will and won't do and that there will be another meeting in the future for the people to talk about the merits of the plan itself.

Steve suggested that it might be a good idea to get input on the plan itself before approving the ordinance, because if the plan is changed, it may not even be needed. Jim R. brought up the fact that since our current maintenance permit will be expiring and since the ordinance will allow some maintenance, it should possibly be approve anyway. Steve said that the DNR made it sound like we wouldn't want one without the other.

Mike M. asked if the other beaches in the County are doing the same thing with a bulkhead line. Liberty Grove did and their lease says it's specifically for the purpose of installing sand, regrading the beach, or eliminating a health issue. He feels we wouldn't want the ordinance until the plan is set in stone.

Jim P. mentioned that we were looking at extending the line to cover the Christensen's and Williams' properties. Steve said the DNR had no problem with that, but the neighbors would have to agree to the requirements, such as sand, plantings, a vegetative buffer and that they would not be able to do the normal beach grooming.

Mike M. stated that Carol Williams couldn't be here, but she did express concerns with him as to whether or not she'd be able to do her phragmite removal. Steve recommended speaking with the Town's attorney and possibly having him meet with the property owners. There may need to be some type of agreement as far as liability, requirements, etc.

More discussion was had as to whether the bulkhead line ordinance should come first, or if the plan should be brought to the public for input first. Also, Peter mentioned we need to have some legal clarification as to what, exactly, this bulkhead line would mean for all parties involved. After lengthy discussion and more input from the audience, it was determined that no action would be taken at this meeting and to hold an informational meeting, which would be held upstairs. John would be available for presentation. We could give some background and history as to why we're doing it. Steve would also be present. The meeting will be held on September 15 at 7:00PM.

Motion made/second Barb/Bob to adjourn at 8:20PM. Carried.

These minutes were prepared from notes by Michael Meulemans and from listening to the audio DVD and are subject to correction at the next regular monthly Town Board and Parks Committee meetings.

Douglas Smith
Town Clerk