

Friends of Barnstable Harbor
Minutes of Annual Meeting
December 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 by President Avery Revere. In attendance were Secretary Peter Eleftherakis, six other board members and a total of 20 members.

A total of 24 Proxy ballots were received and the vote was unanimous to elect the slate of Directors as presented.

President Revere introduced new board members Jeanne Willis and Brit Lay.

The minutes of the 2016 Annual Meeting were distributed by Secretary Eleftherakis and were accepted by unanimous vote.

The Treasurers Report was read by Secretary Eleftherakis and was accepted by unanimous vote.

The President then provided a status update on the following items:

Avery will be meeting with Town Manager Mark Ells in January and will request that FOBH be treated as an abutter for all projects that impact Barnstable Harbor. Avery asked for a volunteer to serve as a liaison to the town. After the close of the meeting, Secretary Peter Eleftherakis volunteered to fill that role.

President Revere presented the results of the survey which she had distributed via email to approximately 280 FOBH members. A total of 60 responses were received. Respondents felt that the two most pressing issues for FOBH to address include Planning & Development and Environmental Concerns (including storm water runoff and invasive species). A total of 57 respondents felt that Benthic Mapping was a good idea, with almost half of those indicating that the project is one that should be pursued. The other major area supported by respondents was the FOBH Lecture Series. President Revere concurred and indicated that volunteers will be needed to help organize future events.

President Revere provided an update on the status of the Youth Education Project. The 2017 goal is to run 6 – 8 trips with English Language Learners. In addition, Avery indicated that Dr. Pete Sampou of the Sturgis Charter School has expressed interest in developing a program to work with his classes.

President Revere informed the group that the Town Council is seeking \$30,000 for evaluating, designing and permitting a municipal pier in the harbor. Former Town Councilor Ann Canedy provided some background on the project. President Revere indicated that FOBH should be involved in the project and it will be one of the topics to be discussed with Town Manager at the upcoming meeting. An excerpt of the Town Council Minutes of November 2, 2017 are included below:

2018-033 APPROPRIATION AND TRANSFER ORDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000 FROM THE
GENERAL FUND RESERVES FOR THE EVALUATION, DESIGN AND PERMITTING OF A TOWN PIER IN
THE BARNSTABLE HARBOR AREA INTRO: 10/19/17, 11/02/17

Mark Ells, Town Manager, gave the rationale. He explained commercial uses, residential uses and other activities can create challenges in these cases we will utilize internal staff but we may augment other sources as well. Open public hearing seeing no one close public hearing. Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was: ORDERED: That the Town Council hereby appropriates and transfers the sum of \$30,000 from the General Fund Reserves, for the purpose of evaluating, designing and permitting a municipal pier located in the Barnstable Harbor area; including the payment of costs incidental or related thereto. VOTE: 12 YES 1 NO (NORMAN OPPOSED) - PASSES

President Revere opened a discussion on initiating a study for doing a Benthic Mapping survey of Barnstable Harbor. This would involve detailing the plant and animal life in the harbor and could be used to provide a baseline for future harbor monitoring. Similar studies have been conducted by Mark Borelli of The Center for Coastal Studies for Pleasant Bay and Wellfleet. Gordon Starr will be undertaking a review of research performed to date. Richard French, Chair of the Sandy Neck Governing Board, pointed out that a recent study was done for Sandy Neck and may contain relevant information. Ann Canedy suggested that the recent dredging done in the harbor may provide some additional data. It was suggested that we contact Mark Borelli to put together a more detailed plan on how to proceed. President Revere will be following up.

Fred Schilpp asked regarding the status of storm water runoff in the village. Particularly of the filtration ponds located behind Barnstable Tavern. This will be an additional topic for discussion with the Town Manager.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29.