

MINUTES
Commissioners' Meeting
SIXTH TAXING DISTRICT, City of Norwalk
October 21, 2024
6:00pm, Community Center and via Zoom

Commission Langalis called the meeting to order at 6:03pm

Attendees – Commissioner Langalis, Commissioner Meyerson, Commissioner Sattler, Treasurer, Gil Kernan, Beach Director and Rental Coordinator, Bill Nollman, Property Manager Ted McFarlin, Fire Marshal Ed Carlson

Tracy Marra was also in attendance.

New Business

Bayley Beach 2024 Recap

Mr. Nollman gave a Comprehensive Update:

- Attendance was down this year including for all of the concerts. It was a very hot July so that may have something to do with it. It's a challenge for Di's snack shack because slow days are very slow - sometimes she has only 2 customers, which doesn't pay the propane - so her hours sometimes aren't consistent. Ms Sattler floated an idea of charging residents for a Beach chit preloaded with money so that they need to use throughout the season.
- Wifi has been quietly installed at the beach and residents are starting to use. There are plans to improve it even further by increasing the number of hot spots.
- The Lifeguards were amazing this year - responsible, seasoned, experienced. - the Senior LGs provided a great example for the newer ones. TBD who will be back in 2025.
- Sand - we brought in 43 tons of sand mainly for the Northeast part of the beach (near the volleyball court) - there had been a huge depression that would cause a lake type puddle when it rained. Goal is to get more next year and add some near the seawall sidewalk so the drop is not as drastic. Ms. Langalis suggested raising sidewalks which are now well below the sand.
- Roton cut down a number of trees between the properties due to Lantern Bug infestation. Those trees provided shade on that side of the beach so we will look to replace them. Weeburn uses posts with coverings to create shaded areas for their members. We will look into that as well - although Ms Langalis pointed out that it is a beach and beaches don't have shade.
- Luis and Jose did an amazing job pruning the middle area on the North Central side of the beach against the parking lot - they also reclaimed sidewalks that run adjacent that has been overrun with sand and grass roots.

- Pavilion has some cosmetic improvements made including replacing a railing and having it painted. An annual maintenance project is to flush the drains that get clogged with sand.
- Kayak racks still working well. All renters were told to retrieve their equipment by Nov 1 – next year TBD due to potential Playground work.
- Toilets were serviced at the beginning of the season and functioned for the most part – given the old plumbing, when the beach is really crowded (fireworks) it is hard to monitor what is flushed and that is when problems arise.
- We replaced 3-4 picnic tables and brought more durable Adirondack chairs. We will look to upgrade tables and chairs again in 2025.
- The parking lot lining device has been working well – given that it is not permanent pavement, this device is inexpensive and can be used throughout the season for relining. We will get new millings again in 2025 for the lot.
- Garth was very helpful in doing project work through the summer including running the sand machine. Noticeable difference. Broke down in August but back and running
- We will look to get more Mulch to run along the Roton fence in 2025.
- Floats – taken out of the water – think we should get rid of the wooden float too much maintenance – lets get another inflatable one.
- Dogs at Beach – discussing date that we have Dogs Allowed - keep at October 15 because it is hard to enforce but we don't want to invite.
- Remind people that we all share the beach and be nicer.
- Glass policy hasn't been followed as well, especially after hours.
- Garbage – public service campaign – trash in general – wants people to be aware – the single most disappointing thing at the beach how people dispose of trash. Ms. Sattler suggested contacting Andrea Gottlieb who ran Team Green.

Tracy Marra report

- Early voting is open from early October through Election Day at City Hall
- Absentee ballot is still available but cutting it close – would need to drop off at City Hall at this point.
- A ballot item is “no excuse” absentee ballot for future elections – right now you need an excuse to get an absentee ballot
- There is a debate for the 104th District - Tracy's position and her opponent – on Zoom.
- Mr. Kernan asked about explanation on the changes in Energy Bill. Ms. Mara gave an explanation on all of the costs that are broken out into 4 areas. There is a new Public Use area that has been included – to offset this new cost; Eversource has lowered their supply costs – which will renew in January. She went on to explain Nuclear energy and charges for Electric Chargers – she wants to make some changes to what the public is being charged.

Shakespeare on The Sound

- Introduction of the new Director
- Fantastic summer with Romeo & Juliet – 4100 people over 2 weeks
- Asking for same dates for 2025
- They will do kids shows again this coming summer
- This will be the 29th year.
- No ShakesBeer but there will be a kick off party

RCA – new Fall Festival

- Asking about closing the driveway next year while this is going on. It's a kids event so lots of kids running. Ask people to walk there.

Rowayton Arts Center

- Discussion on the back porch and the reparations needed to make it safe. Teddy said he is getting estimate for a temporary fix, but will have a full fix after holidays

Old Business

Project Updates

- Sewers are being redone down the road
- Leaks in the roof have a band aid, flashing not done properly
- Repaving the lower lot will take place after sewers are done.
- New storage shed has been put in place.
- Fencing was fixed by McKinley
- Hedges are well groomed
- New cleaning crew – doing all of the bathrooms 2x each week.

Commissioner's Report

Treasurer Report

- Revenue is in line for where it should be
- Expenses in line percentage wise
- New expenses – new lawn mower
- We have an extension for the audit
- 25/26 budget meetings will be set soon.

Beach Report

- November 1 everything will be shut down
- Gate will be kept open once the bathrooms are closed likely November 1

Fire Marshal Report

	#	# Hours
Blasting Permits		
Blasting Site Inspections		
Building Inspections	3	5
Clerical Work		15
Fire Marshal Conferences	1	8
Career Training	1	2
Investigations	3	3
Meetings FNHCFMA	1	3
Other: Fireworks Inspection & Standby		
Temp Structure Permit	1	1
		37

- Fall fundraiser at the Firehouse – 10/26
- Smoke and CO2 detectors available for anyone that needs them for free.
- A report from Norwalk shared that it saved a family.

We are skipping November meeting
Next meeting will be Dec 2, 6:00

In 2025 the meetings will be Mondays or Tuesdays – not Wednesdays.
Discuss not overlapping with other Groups.
And avoiding holidays.

Mr. McFarlin reiterated that the back deck at Arts Center is dangerous to be used until fixed properly.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20.