

**Stanclift Cove Authority**  
**Regular Meeting - @ the Cove (moved to NH town hall due to rain)**  
**6 PM – July 27, 2023**

**Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 by Penny Miller. Aaron Jack, Brian Grant, Erik Perotti and Melissa Roy were in attendance. Paul Sutter was absent. Jack Weber present.

**Financials-** We are on track from where we were last year.

**Approval of Minutes** - We were able to approve the minutes from 6/22. Motion to approve was Mr. Grant and was seconded by Ms. Miller.

**Public Comment-** Three residents from Barkhamsted were available for public comment: Susan Cable & Scott Johnstone of 16 Park Road. Ms. Cable was concerned about a plan for the replacement of trees at the Cove. Ms. Cable suggested planting Pine trees. Mr. Johnstone also recommended utilizing volunteers to assist with the planting/ prepping the area. Ms. Cable was also concerned about the holes that children are digging and leaving. Ms. Cable was also concerned about the bathrooms and was wondering if we could get a couple more portable bathrooms. They seem to fill quickly. Ms. Cable also asked if it would be okay if she cleared some bittersweet from the area.

Ms. Lisa Candels 58 East River Road. Ms. Candels suggested American Beech trees in replacement. Ms. Candels wanted to know if there was anything we can do about the time people have to leave the beach. She was primarily concerned with having to get out of the water by 7:15 then have to get off the beach by 7:30. This is concerning because the brochure states that gates close at 8pm people should be able to stay on the beach a bit longer. Especially for those families that bring dinner to the Cove after work.

The board explained why the hours were set and Ms. Miller also expressed her concern over a child going into the water after the lifeguards leave for the day if people remain on the beach. Jack Weber expressed that the guards do ask patrons to fill the holes they have dug before leaving for the day and the guards themselves end up filling them as well as pick up discarded beach toys at the end of the day.

Mr. Grant will call and see what is the cost benefit of either having an additional restroom or having the company pump out an extra time during the week.

The board will be looking to Barkhamsted's tree warden as well as MDC for recommendations for appropriate trees for the area.

**Communication-**

The commission received a response from a patron who had an issue a week ago. Ms. Miller had sent out a warning because of an incident and the patron responded. No additional response necessary on our part.

**Policies**

Policies are still in draft form. They will be voted on during the off season.

**Docks**

All set. Concern over a nailhead coming up on one of the docks. One of the lifeguards tore her shorts. Ms. Miller told the guard to purchase another pair of shorts and the commission will cover the cost up to \$50.

Mr. Perotti will be reaching out to Regatta boats to get a quote on bringing the docks in for the season as well as putting them out at the beginning of the season.

The board will also look into finding better rope to secure the red buoy so it doesn't drift.

**Swim Lessons**

We need to find more guards for the last two weeks of lessons. Ms. Roy will post on Facebook that we need additional guards.

Patrons are satisfied.

**Personnel**

Still in need of lifeguards for the month of August. A new guard reached out to see if there were openings but Jack called her and did not receive a response. Ashley is supposed to give names of a few people from the Torrington pool who were interested in getting extra hours.

Jack is supposed to reach out to Bill Houle to see if there is anyone he can recommend.

A few people from last year are interested in guarding for the month of August.

**August staffing**

See Personnel

**Anything else to come before the board**

Access to the handicapped bathrooms- Mr. Grant is going to reach out to Rich Novak to see if they can come and cut the curb in front of the handicapped bathroom so there is access. It should also be striped on the ground so no one will park in front of the entrance.

Ashley Petzel, head lifeguard, asked if the rules regarding life vests can be printed on the brochure next year for patrons to reference.

She also has additional concerns:

1. Rainy day pay- What is the rule?  
*Our policy is that we pay for 2 hours regardless if the cove has to close early.*
2. We need an additional guard for swim lessons for the last two weeks of August.  
*We will continue looking for guards.*
3. Who is supposed to pick up trash on the beach? Lifeguards or supervisors?  
*The Supervisors are supposed to pick up the majority of the trash but should a lifeguard see something as they are raking and taking care of the beach at the end of the day then they should remove it from the beach.*

Discussion of who the staff should call in the event of an emergency

Jim Harding spoke with Jack Weber and insisted that the state police be called for anything pertaining to the Cove. Mr. Harding said that while MDC does own the property The Cove is technically leasing it so the state police are supposed to cover.

Ms. Roy spoke with Trooper Roy Dungan of Troop B and was told that the first call is **ALWAYS to 911** and the dispatcher will assess the situation. If it is for an accident or anything minor then the MDC police will be dispatched to respond. If they are not available then a trooper will be sent.

Jack Weber was concerned about the remaining glass from the accident. He is concerned that someone will cut their foot. He has removed the majority of the glass from the area but is concerned with what he may have missed. Mr. Perotti suggested using a leaf blower to get whatever remaining glass out of the area. Mr. Grant suggested putting a layer of the wood chips.

Mr. Grant recommended that we look into putting sun sails up for shade over the swing set so they are not in direct sun. Some research has to go in to see how deep the supports have to be set so it will have to be discussed during the off season.

Ms. Miller wants to order signs for the doors so supervisors will know where the medical equipment is located. Ms. Miller will order signs for First Aid and AED.

T-Shirts sales have not been as good as years past. We will NOT be holding an end of year sale. Ms. Roy is working with a local print company to create a new T-shirt for next season and we will use the remaining shirts this year as an option for purchase.

Mr. Grant was curious about our Non Profit status. Ms. Miller doesn't think we are 501C3 but

believes we are still considered non-profit. She will inquire at town hall so we would know our official status. This may open the doors to some grants that are offered.

A request was made for handicapped accessible picnic tables. The commission is looking to see which tables can be made more handicapped accessible.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Grant at 7:25. Seconded by A. Jack- unanimous.