

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Fort Williams Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2009

Present: Dan Chase (Chair), Chuck Wilson, Maureen McCarthy, Frank Butterworth, Bill Nickerson, Bill Brownell.

Staff: Bob Malley

Guest: Jessie Timberlake, Alice Rand, Betty Crane

Call to order: 7:05 p.m. in the Public Works Conference Room by Dan Chase.

Approval of the minutes for the September meeting:

Chuck Wilson moved accept the minutes as written, Frank Butterworth seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Park Update:

- Fence installed at the Goddard Mansion, came in lower than anticipated at \$3,500.
- Buses have been idling at the circle and parking lot. Rangers have been asked request them to shutdown the motors while waiting.
- There have been many buses, lots of spending at the gift shop.
- There is a story on the home page regarding the funds received from the buses during their visits.

Budget: Nothing to report at this time.

Arboretum Walk & Talk:

Several people attended. Plans were shown and then walked the area of the demonstration site. It was very informative. There was no discussion of fund raising. Reactions were very positive. Presented at the Rotary Meeting to get the word out on what is being attempted in the community.

Fee Discussions:

State wanted \$5.00 per plate to run where the plates were from. Did work internally and basically findings were 80%/20% non-resident to resident. This was not a big surprise. Length of stay mainly 30 to 60 minutes. Concern voiced that if there are fees that people may not come if they have to pay.

The pay and display in Portsmouth, New Hampshire has less violations and have had a 33% increase in revenue versus standard parking. It takes coins, debit cards and credit

cards. There is a very active participation and there is a need for good signage to make it successful.

We need to come up with a recommendation on fees, concessions and busses. Also we should review the potential for another picnic shelter.

A review of the data from COGS was discussed at length. Some questions were brought forth, some general fee examples thrown around as ballpark. Opinions and options reviewed.

Overall at this time consensus seems to be leaning toward pay and display.

New Fee Schedule:

Bob presented the new proposal for the fee schedule.

Frank Butterworth motioned and Bill Nickerson seconded: Motion to accept fees as proposed. All voted to accept.

Battery Subcommittee:

Discussed the letter to the Charitable Foundation regarding the feasibility study. The plan is to present it to the Charitable Foundation at their next scheduled meeting. There was a small revision requested to the wording which will be incorporated.

The Foundation Members discussed that they had a contract with a firm to study the feasibility of getting an endowment established. The study should be completed by December of 2009.

The Foundation plans to do an annual appeal in November.

Other Business:

Plan is to have Dan Goodman at the workshop meeting to review the numbers presented at tonight's meeting. Also, we will request an executive summary.

It was mentioned that there was going to be a presentation by Earl Shuttleworth at the Greater Portland Landmarks meeting on November 5 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, November 19.

Frank Butterworth motioned to adjourn, seconded by Maureen. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen McCarthy, Acting Secretary