A regular meeting of the Trustees of the Trust Funds for the City of Portsmouth, New Hampshire was held on September 3, 2015, at the 4th Floor Law Library at Portsmouth City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

Present were Trustees Phyllis Z. Eldridge, Dana S. Levenson and Thomas R. Watson. Also present were Peter Torrey, Michael Warhurst, David Allen, Tracy Kozak and John Bohenko.

The minutes of the August 13, 2015, meeting were reviewed and, upon motion duly made and seconded, approved.

Payroll and operating expense checks were reviewed and signed.

Ms. Kozak of JSA Architects appeared on behalf of Prescott Parks Arts Festival. She distributed a conceptual site plan for the proposed relocated PPAF stage. She described its location, its dimensions (40’ x 50’) the dimensions of the adjacent deck (36’-8” in depth) and height (same as existing stage). She also described its orientation and the location of a new control booth. Mr. Bohenko reported that the conceptual design is expected to be presented to the City Counsel at its next meeting. After her introduction, a discussion ensued with the Trustees and Ms. Kozak concerning the project.

Ms. Eldridge expressed her concern about considering the location and size of the new stage in isolation without the benefit of knowing how the stage will fit into the overall footprint of PPAF in the park. Ms. Kozak stated that she understood the Festival was in the process of beginning strategic planning to help it identify what it anticipates its role will be in the future. Mr. Levinson reiterated his opinion that the community and the Trustees should undertake an assessment of the park and a strategic planning effort to ascertain the uses to which the park should be put in the future and the appropriate role of other organizations in those uses, before deciding on the location or size of a certain stage proposal. Mr. Watson seconded Mr. Levinson’s sentiment.

Mr. Torrey presented the Trustees with the proposed MS-9 and MS-10 reports for the year. After review and discussion, they were executed by the Trustees and Mr. Torrey was asked to file them with the appropriate offices.

Mr. Torrey reported that the Trustees have now received monies associated with the two newly established scholarship funds. $15,935.56 has been received in the Barbara Porter Fund $31,219.69 has been received in the Tony Rahn Fund.

Mr Warhurst presented his report on the park. He reported that the revenue from dock rentals recently exceeded $50,000 for the season. He noted that one of the brick columns which frame the motor vehicle entrance to the park that passes the concession building was recently hit by an unknown driver causing damage to the column. He is presently asking park users if they...
have any information concerning the identity of the culprit. Mr. Warhurst also reported that the electrical pedestal serving the Gundalow is in full operation.

Mr. Warhurst reported on the receipt of another inquiry from the Portsmouth Police Department about the installation of signs at the entrance of Four Tree Island advising the public of the Park’s “No Alcohol Policy” and the hours of operation. After discussion, the Trustees tabled the request in order to obtain an opinion from the city attorney as to whether there has been a formal vote on hours of operation in public parks by City Counsel. Mr. Warhurst also reported that he received an inquiry from a gentleman named “Bob” about recreating Celia Thaxter’s garden in the park and invited that individual to attend the Trustee’s Meeting to speak to his proposal. Apparently, he was unable to attend this meeting. Mr. Warhurst stated that if contacted again, he will invite that individual to a future meeting of the Trustees.

The chair reported that the next meeting will take place on September 17, 2015.

There being no further business, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Thomas R. Watson, Secretary