## TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE MINUTES OF APRIL 14, 2016 MEETING

A regular meeting of the Trustees of the Trust Funds for the City of Portsmouth, New Hampshire was held on April 14, 2016 at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room of the Seybolt Building at Portsmouth City Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

Present were Trustees Phyllis Z. Eldridge, Thomas R. Watson and Dana S. Levenson. Also present were Michael Warhurst, David Moore, Alan Brady, Susanne Woodland, Mary Krempels, Beth Margeson, Judy Nerbonne, Judy Capobianco, and Joseph Jalli.

The minutes of the March 31, 2016 meeting were reviewed and, upon motion duly made and seconded, approved.

Payroll and operating expense checks were reviewed and signed.

Mr. Warhurst delivered his Park report. He noted that there are now 11 seasonal boaters committed for the summer, ten of which have fully paid. Further to his report at the last Trustees meeting, Mr. Warhurst reported that Robert Snover of Appledore Marine Engineering completed the underwater inspection of the chains and mooring blocks of the new docking facilities. He will be issuing a written report on the results in the near future. Mr. Warhurst described his walk through the Park with City officials and representatives from Weston & Sampson, the consulting firm retained by the City to assist with the development of the Prescott Park Master Plan. He also noted that the City arborist is scheduled to visit the Park and evaluate the health of the Norway maples. He will ask the arborist to also examine the dying tree that sits on a neighboring property that has become a threat to the concession building in the Park.

Mr. Warhurst reported on the receipt of a request from Prescott Parks Arts Festival to install Wi-Fi in the concession building. After discussion regarding the same, the Trustees asked Mr. Warhurst to refer the request to the Public Works Department. Mr. Warhurst advised that Piscataqua Landscaping plans to install the new sod in the vicinity of the PPAF stage on Monday and Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. He also noted that Piscataqua Landscaping is working on a design for the garden that sits between Marcy Street and the formal garden. Once done, the design will be presented to the Trustees for review.

Mr. Warhurst advised that water has been turned on for all systems in the Park except the concession area. With the planned partial floor replacement, it was determined to keep the floor dry. He also reported that some equipment, including a sink, may need to be removed for the floor installation. Finally, Mr. Warhurst reported that the test borings conducted in the Park last fall by PPAF resulted in a break in a 2-inch water line that will be repaired shortly. He also noted that it is possible that other lines may have been damaged but that cannot be determined until the 2-inch line is repaired.

Ms. Eldridge stated that she has received a request from Mindy Anderson of Mission Portsmouth to conduct a Power Boot Camp in the Park during the Summer and Early Fall a couple of days a week, commencing at 5:30 pm. Mr. Watson noted that the request did not indicate whether the boot camp will be offered to the public at no charge or whether there will be

an amplified sound and does not contain other details sufficient to determine whether the proposed activity meets with the Park's policies. After further discussion, the Trustees unanimously resolved to table the request to allow Mr. Warhurst to contact the applicant and obtain further information concerning the planned activity.

Ms. Eldridge reported on her attendance at the Joint Meeting concerning the sewer plant construction project on Pierce Island held on Monday, April 11, 2016. She noted that the City is planning on constructing a sidewalk behind the Players' Ring Building to direct pedestrians away from the sidewalk at the narrowest part of Marcy Street through which construction equipment will pass daily. She also reported that the corner of the Park at the intersection of Marcy Street and Mechanic Street will be removed in order to allow for better turning by the construction trucks. She noted that there is currently discussion of creating a shuttle to bring people to and from the Park and Pierce Island from outlying parking areas. Attorney Woodland also noted that the work at that corner will require that certain archeological work also be performed in the Park and the City is currently in the process of arranging for that work.

Mr. Brady next addressed the Trustees concerning the plans to install the Dockwa reservation system for the public docks. He reported that the final contract is still under review by the City Attorney. He explained that it will be necessary for the Park Superintendent to have internet access to connect with the reservation system. He stated that he has researched the options and believes that a smartphone is the best and cost effective method. He recommends that the Trustees purchase a smartphone and a service plan for this purchase. He advised that it is probable that both could be purchased through the City's service plan. After further discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, Trustees resolved to authorize Mr. Warhurst, with the assistance of Mr. Brady, to purchase a smartphone and a service plan with the same to be paid out of the Marine Maintenance Fund.

Ms. Eldridge than announced that the meeting was open for public comment. Judy Nerbonne first addressed the Trustees. Ms. Nerbonne is a resident in the neighborhood adjacent to the Park. She expressed her concern about the traffic and noise impacts on both the Park and neighborhood associated with the construction of the new sewage plant on Pierce Island. She expressed concerns for the safety of users of the Park because of the construction traffic. Ms. Nerbonne also stated that the sound generated by the PPAF adversely affects her ability to enjoy her home, particularly during any activities outdoors. Finally, she added that she thought that the recent articles in the Portsmouth Herald concerning PPAF contained inaccuracies. She noted, as an example, a particular statement contained in one of the articles that PPAF had contributed to funds to the Fairy House Tour sponsored by the Friends of the South End. She stated that, in fact, the funds that were transferred from PPAF to the Fairy House Tour were proceeds from the sale of tickets for the Tour sold by PPAF.

Ms. Margeson, another resident in the neighborhood, also expressed her concerns about the noise and safely issues resulting from the construction equipment expected to pass through the area. She noted that it has been projected that there will be 133 truck trips per day, over an 11-hour span, passing to and from the construction area. She noted that children are regularly passing across Marcy Street at several points in order to access the Park. She also expressed her concern about the loss of parking on Pierce Island and adjacent to the Park and the likely impact that loss will have on the neighborhood. Mr. Moore stated that the City is working on a parking remediation plan as well as ways of enhancing the safety of pedestrians and other Park users.

Ms. Krempels, another resident, echoed the concerns of the earlier speakers.

The chair reported that the next meeting will take place on April 28, 2016.

There being no further business, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

Thomas R. Watson, Secretary

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