



TOWN OF OLD LYME

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Minutes – Regular Meeting

May 22, 2023, 7.30pm

Shoreline

Present: Frank Pappalardo (Chair), Michaelle Pearson (Secretary), Robert Carlson (Alternate), Frank Maratta

Absent: Paul Orzel, Joann Lishing, Harry Plaut, Joann Reis Lishing, Jackie Miano (Alternate)

Guests: Paula Melillo, Angelo Grasso, Joyce Grasso, Tom Larsen, Stephanie Livesey, Carolyn Miranda, Lenny Corto, Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker (ex-officio)

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Chairman Frank Pappalardo at 7:33 pm.
2. Alternate Robert Carlson appointed for Joann Lishing.
3. **Approval of April 24, 2023 minutes. MOTION** to approve: Frank Maratta. Bob Carlson seconded. All in favor.
4. **Public Comment:** Joyce Grasso said she had emailed the town about video access for the meetings and never received a response. Frank Pappalardo said that meetings are not required to be recorded. Carolyn Miranda asked the Commission members to introduce themselves, which they did. Tom Larson said there had been numerous questions regarding the safety of the Rangers' use of the ATV on the beach. Frank Pappalardo said it was on the agenda and would be addressed later in the meeting. Lenny Corto said he had received a ticket for his golf cart, and the svgolfcarts@gmail.com email address listed on the town website is inoperable. Frank Pappalardo said golf cart issues may be sent directly to the Sound View Commission, and he will ensure the information is updated on the town website. Mr. Corto then shouted questions and accusations at the Chairman for several minutes. Carolyn Miranda stated that golf carts have become a safety issue on Route 156 and that she had heard a rumor that the Shoreline Church is planning to offer parking for Kokomos, and she felt that Sound View needs less parking, not more. Frank Pappalardo said that golf carts are not allowed on State Roads, so police should be notified if there is an issue.
5. **Correspondence:** The Commission received an email on May 2 from Lenny Corto. Frank Pappalardo handed out printed copies. There was also an invoice from Yards & More for weeding and mulching the planters.



6. **Old Business: Shoreline Gateway Committee:** At the May meeting, the Gateway Committee voted to accept the following as a Mission Statement: “To establish the Gateway Area as a vibrant community asset while preserving the essential value of its geography and history.” The Committee reviewed Blight Ordinances from several other towns, and began working on crafting a Vision Statement for the area. Tom Larson asked if there had been any further action on the possible moratorium in the Gateway area. Selectwoman Shoemaker, who is Co-Chair of the Gateway Committee, said the Committee must get closer to defining the mission and vision before there is any further discussion on the possibility of a moratorium. Property owners will be included in the process, and are encouraged to attend the Gateway Committee meetings. Frank Pappalardo reported that Bill Randazzo had offered the town first right of refusal for the sale of the former El Morocco site and adjoining properties for \$750K. The town asked the Gateway Committee for input. The Committee thought it was an interesting opportunity but the price was very high.

6. **New Business: 2023 Beach Season Update:**

Swim Lines: will be measured with the rangefinder again this year to ensure they are placed correctly. Supposed to be in by Memorial Day weekend. Frank Pappalardo and Frank Maratta will contact Harry Plaut.

Signage: The new beach signs have been installed. The new “Welcome to Sound View” sign has arrived, but some work will be needed to fix the signpost in the MiniMart parking lot before it can be displayed.

Kokomo’s Fence: Residents have complained that the Kokomo’s fence extends too far towards the water making it impossible for pedestrians to walk on the beach below the tide line. Frank Pappalardo called the owner, Brian Cleary who asserted that the new fence was replacing a similar one that had been washed away. Mr. Pappalardo noted that the beach must remain unobstructed below the tide line, and Mr. Cleary agreed to meet on site to re-view the issue.

Public Works: The new trash enclosures have been built. They are cedar wood with spar varnish clearcoat. Estimated to be installed by the weekend.

Tom Larsen presented his beach basket litter collection idea at the last Board of Selectmen’s meeting, and it was approved. Michaelle Pearson will send a copy of the Town Seal to be used on the baskets.



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Speed Humps are on backorder. Frank Pappalardo is seeking quotes for a different style, and received one bid in today. Hoping to have the other two in soon. The humps will be placed on each street between Bocce Lane and Route 156. If they are effective, more will be ordered.

Town Website has been edited to reflect all of the correct Sound View info for the 2023 season.

New Passport Parking Program. Parking will be via the new Passport Parking app. There will be new signs with a QR code, but they won't be ready by this weekend, so temporary signs will be made. Frank Pappalardo and Bob Carlson will meet with police and rangers on Thursday to review the plan for Memorial Day weekend. Selectwoman Shoemaker confirmed that she had set up the required Android phones, and the rangers will be trained on using them with the passport software this week. Lenny Corto interrupted the Commission's discussion with several loud outbursts. Frank Pappalardo said he had spoken with Mark Mongillo of Miami Beach re staffing for the weekend. The town does not have many Rangers in place yet, and is seeking applicants. The minimum age is 18, and there is no maximum age.

Paula Melillo stated that there have been many complaints about the Rangers driving the ATV on the beach, and asked that they walk the beach for patrols this year rather than driving.

Concerts: Four scheduled: Old Lyme Town Band 6/22, Souls on Fire 7/13, 7/22 Second Time Around , Red Satin Band 8/10, The Jovial Crew 8/24. Joann Lishing will need help from Commission members for the concerts.

Frank Maratta asked if he could announce the new parking fees to the media this year, as there had been so much misinformation and bad publicity regarding parking last year. Frank Pappalardo thought this would be a good idea, but asked Mr. Maratta to send a copy of the press release for approval by the Selectmen before it is sent out. Joyce Grasso asked if the numbers from the parking fees had been released yet? Frank Pappalardo said the info in last month's meeting minutes.

7. **MOTION to Adjourn:** Frank Maratta, Bob Carlson Seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9.02pm

Respectfully submitted,

Michaëlle Pearson, Secretary



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