

# **LONG BEACH WEST BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION**

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

November 17, 2011

The Mayor's Long Beach West Blue Ribbon Commission conducted a meeting on Thursday, November 17, 2011 in room 213 of Stratford Town Hall, 2715 Main Street, Stratford, CT pursuant to notice duly posted.

**Commission Members in Attendance** - Chairman Patrick Gribbon, Milan Bull, Morgan Kaolian, Devin Santa, Marcia Stewart, John Zbell, Edward Scinto; Non-voting members Brian Carey - Conservation Officer, Capt. Joseph McNeil - Stratford Police

**Commission Members Absent** - Non-voting members: Carol Szymanski – DEEP, Sharon Marino & Andrew French - US Fish & Wildlife

**Others in Attendance** — Residents Walter and Rita Rimkunas, Jim Malhaley

**Document Distributed during meeting:** Long Beach West/Long Beach Priority list (appended)

1. **Call to Order** - Chairman Gribbon called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes** — October 13, 2011  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. SANTA SECONDED BY MS. STEWART TO APPROVE THE FOREGOING MINUTES. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
3. **Correspondence** — Mr. Gribbon reported on the following:
  - Telephone Conversation with Ted Grabarz, Bridgeport Facilities Supt.
  - Conversation with Gary Sorge of Stantech Consulting
  - On Nov. 2, met with DEEP. This agency, as well as US Fish and Wildlife, needs to present a report to this Committee re: their involvement in this project.
  - Read the “Mission Statement” from the DEEP website.
4. **Committee Reports/Reviews**
5. **Old Business and 6. New Business**

Mr. Gribbon sorted the priorities according to the Commission's views/selections and reviewed the priorities as follows: entryway improvements/plantings, overall planting review with improvement and removal of invasive species, security cameras for 24-hour surveillance, dune walkover fencing and signage, replace snow fences previously set on LB, parking lot expansion/improvement with defined/striped parking spaces, comfort station/changing and restrooms, kayak and canoe launching area, Boardwalk 1320' similar to Milford walkway, define property line between Bridgeports' Pleasure Beach and LBW, Establish liaison with Bridgeport parks Dept. and Stantech Consulting with regard to their Pleasure Beach Master Plan, sand

restoration/replacement and improvement creating a more attractive beach area, signage for historical/educational and wild life conservation knowledge, signage for instructional and regulatory information for the area, Gazebo at end of boardwalk/with rooftop overlook, walkway defined from boardwalk end to the end of property, overlooks on boardwalk with optic equipment for view area, pavilion at end of property for conservation education and camping facility.

Comments arose in connection with the aforementioned priorities such as security cameras, the isolation of the area makes police/fire protection and emergencies/rescue difficult, developed areas vs. undeveloped areas, barrier beach restrictions as to sewer and water lines, need for landscape architect, beach erosion, beach nourishment, vandalism, property management, maintenance.

Mr. Gribbon read Ms. Szymanski's comments: an easement to U.S. Fish and Wildlife would provide funding for improvements, wildlife management, creation of "Friends of Longbeach" along with a website would enhance fund-raising, limited dune walkovers, water and sewer lines, composting toilets.

7. **Other** – Mr. Gribbon will call a special meeting after he has firmed up arrangements with US Fish and Wildlife's personnel re: proposal. The January meeting date will be announced.

8. **Adjournment** - There being no other matters to discuss, Mr. Zbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bull and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Cabral - Secretary

LONG BEACH WEST/LONG BEACH PRIORITY LIST IN ORDER 11-17-2011

1. Entryway improvements/New plantings (47)
2. Overall planting review with improvement & removal of invasive species (54)
3. Security cameras for 24 hour surveillance (58)
4. Dune walkover fencing & signage established (66)
5. Replace snow fences previously set on Long Beach (75)
6. Parking lot expansion/improvement with defined/striped parking spaces (78)
7. Comfort station/changing area & restrooms (78)
8. Kayak & canoe launching area (83)
9. Boardwalk 1320' similar to new Milford walkway (87)
10. Define & protect property line between Bridgeport's Pleasure Beach & LBW (87)
11. Establish a liaison with the Bridgeport parks Department & Stantec Consulting with regard to their Pleasure Beach Master Plan (89)
12. Sand restoration/replacement & improvement creating a more attractive beach area (91)
13. Signage for educational/historical & wildlife conservation knowledge (92)
14. Signage for instructional and regulatory information for the area (93)
15. Gazebo at the end of the boardwalk/with rooftop overlook (109)
16. Walkway defined from the end of the boardwalk to the end of the property(108)
17. Overlooks on boardwalk with free optic equipment for viewing of the area(109)
18. Pavilion at the end of the property to be used for conservation education programs & camping a facility(131)