MINUTES
Commissioners' Meeting
SIXTH TAXING DISTRICT, City of Norwalk
March 3, 2025
6:30pm, Community Center-Moose Room and via Zoom

Commissioner Langalis called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

Attendees – Commissioner Tammy Langalis, Commissioner Andy Meyerson, Commissioner Jody Sattler, Treasurer Gil Kernan, Assistant to the Treasurer Doug Hillman, Property Manager Ted McFarlin, Rental Coordinator and Beach Director Bill Nollman, and Fire Marshal and Parking Administrator Ed Carlson

Minutes from the February 3rd Meeting were approved by the 3 Commissioners.

Farmers Market
- Located at Pinkney Park starting sometime in May and going through late October or early November.
- Jillian Shutsharawan is going to be the manager of the new farmers market this year and has been appointed by the 3 commissioners.

Jillian: "We're going to be changing the time to 10 to 2 on Fridays, and hopefully recruiting a lot of new farmers and vendors who haven't participated in our markets before."
- "We're going to have programming to attract customers and have them come every week rather than as they wander by."
- There's going to be a list market fee.
- Approximately 75% farmers and food producers, and 25% artisans.
- People can't come and sell things they purchased online.
- It's things they've made.

Credit Card Line Increase
A motion to increase the credit card line from $5,000 to $10,000 was approved by all 3 Commissioners.

Beach Sticker Process for 2025
- The automated process from last year went well.
- The process is open for online applications or mail-in applications.
- Online: Fill out the form on the district website and pay with a credit card.
- Mail-in: Print the PDF form, fill it out, and mail it in.
- Stickers should be mailed out by mid-March.
- Walk-in beach permit day: To be discussed in April whether to have one or two days.

Bailey Beach Playground Update
- Fundraising is on track for an install in the first week of May.
- Goal: Raise $450,000. Currently at $385,000 (includes $20,000 from the district).
- Donor recognition platform to be installed in the fall.
- Check cleared for the equipment deposit, and manufacturing is underway.
- Goal to have the playground ready before Memorial Day.

Dog Park Management Update
- Quotes for the dog park improvements were received.
- The "Cadillac version" with key fobs and paid entry is estimated to cost $25,000 - $35,000, which is deemed too expensive.
- Will revisit lower-end, cheaper options, such as a number code entry system.
- New gates would cost around $11,000.
- A group has formed to discuss the future of the dog park.
- Issues include park usage during wrong hours, poor owner behavior, and lack of a system to collect money or communicate with users.

Dog Park Issues and Solutions
- Meeting attendees agreed on core behavior issues at the dog park.
- Registration is needed to create a user database for updates and rule dissemination.
- Registration would ensure dogs are vaccinated and registered with Norwalk.
- - Early morning noise is a significant nuisance for nearby residents.
- The city and state have noise regulations that the park is violating.
- One option is to padlock the park during restricted hours, but this is seen as too severe.
- Addressing the issue of a person bringing three dogs early in the morning.
- Suggestion to speak with the individual about the rules.
- If the behavior continues, the park may be shut down.

Dog Behavior at the Beach
- Poor dog behavior at the beach could lead to restrictions
- Reminders about picking up dog poop and keeping dogs under control have been sent.
- It's difficult to confront people about their misbehaving dogs.

Bailey Beach and Community Center WI-FI Update
- WI-FI has been extended at the beach with two new devices.
- WI-FI installation at the community center is in process, expected by spring/summer.
- WI-FI has been upgraded at the Train Station

Train Station Violation Tickets

- The Barnacle program will be implemented after attempting to contact people who owe money for parking tickets.
- The barnacle is a large plastic device that attaches to the windshield and cannot be removed without paying the fine.
- The Barnacle will be used for repeat offenders with more than three tickets (at least $60 worth).
- Working with the DMV to obtain addresses and names of violators based on license plates.
- Last year, information was obtained for zip code 06853.
- Requesting information beyond 06853 to target repeat offenders.
- Meeting with Barnacle representative at the station on Friday morning at 11.
- T2 (ticketing software) is fully integrated with Barnacle.

Train Station Parking
- Center line parking was removed due to safety concerns during school pick-up and drop-off times.
- The situation has improved since the removal of center line parking.
- Reached out to the school to inform parents about parking regulations.

Community Center Bathrooms
- Working with Rowayton Paddle Tennis Board to update the bathrooms downstairs.
- Bathrooms are cleaned three times a week, have been painted, and will have light fixtures replaced.
- Rowayton Paddle Tennis volunteers did some painting of murals.

Bayley Beach Camp
- Paco's presentation was approved to have a camp for young people at Bayley Beach this summer.
- Camp will be for 5-12 year olds or 6-12 year olds.
- Working to create a site with Team Snap to process payments.
- Getting state certification for the camp and hiring a couple of 21 year olds to be on site.
- Signups will start within the week.

Snow Removal
- Reminder to shovel sidewalks, even on the main road if your property is on the corner.
- The city may fine you if you don't shovel.

District Treasurer
- Reviewed the checks and ACHs for February.
- Quarterly payment to the library and snow plowing were highlighted.

Fire Marshal
- February report: five building inspections, 22 man hours of clerical office work, one fire marshal conference, one career development training program, one investigation, and one

temperature structure application. Total man hours, 31 hours for the month.
- Ed emphasized the importance of working smoke detectors and CO detectors.
- Free battery operated 9 volt battery combination CO and smoke detectors available at 203-854-6666, extension two.
- Incident on a house where rags ignited; smoke detectors saved four children and one adult.

District Property Manager
- Art center: porches and back deck need to be repaired, and the sewers need to be addressed at the Community Center.
- This is budgeted for this spring and summer.

Beach Updates
- The beach director is preparing for the season and has many candidates for new lifeguard positions due to turnover.
- New tables and chairs will be added gradually.
- Milling will be done in the parking lot
- Kayak equipment placement will depend on the playground schedule due to proximity and earth movers.

Rental Updates
- There has been an uptick in rentals for small weddings and events, mostly community center driven, but some are being signed up for the beach.

Lighthouse Boat
- A Non-Profit group is raising money to buy a launch boat to reduce costs associated with charter services for larger events.
- They propose a shuttle service between Norwalk, Darien, and the lighthouse, including Bailey Beach.
- The representative asks about permits and the process for providing this service.

Next Meeting
- The next regular meeting of the 6 taxing district will be Monday, April 7th, at 6 p.m. in the community center.