

## Sohier Park Committee

### January 14, 2025 Meeting

#### Members Present:

Barry Leibovitz
Brenda Knapp
Brian Ross
Kim Tourigny
Diane Ross
Susan Moran
Tony Knox

Others Present: Marquis MacGlashing, Peter Murray, Phyllis Fox, Steven Dunn, Cathy O'Donnell

#### Topics Discussed:

##### 1. Sohier Park Project Plan

- Discussion with members of the public regarding the Sohier Park Project Plan. Steven Dunn had some concerns with the plan, he noted that he and Phyllis counted 83 parking spaces which included not stripped parking spaces. The new plan has 68 parking spaces. There was a concern of having access to their dumpster especially when being unloaded. Also concerned with any blockage of views from the restaurant area. Phyllis mention that it would be nice to have the gift Shop bathrooms open until 9:00pm during July and August. Cathy who was on the Sohier Park Committee in prior years, made several recommendations. She wanted to make sure the committee was aware of any restrictions associated with the deed of Sohier Park. She was concerned with the height of any of the shrubs in the green areas of the plan, wants to make sure we do not obstruct any views to the Lighthouse. She also indicated that we must be aware of the impervious surface areas of the new plan so as to conform to all the town's requirements. Cathy also left us with contact person who is the Lighthouse Association President. Cathy, Steve and Phyllis seemed to be positive on overall plan and they indicated that they would be supportive of having the plan finished as one plan instead of phasing it over several years.

##### 2. Gift Shop Report

- Marquis indicated that online sales are trending up and hopes to improve sales online. She has been purchasing items for the new 2025 season. A discussion was had about ordering the Annual Christmas ornaments for 2025 in June. They would be available of sale during the peak summer season. Marquis also mentions that there is a "donate button" on the web site to make it very easy for someone to make a donation online.

##### 3. Committee Discussion on Sohier Park Plan

- The general consensus of the committee was that the Sohier Park Project should be bonded with revenue of the Gift Shop covering the costs of the plan over a period of time. The wetland in phase II should be a priority in going forward with the plan in determining the best approach to mediate the wetlands.

#### **4. Motions by the Committee**

- Motions made to recommend to the Select Board that the Sohier Park project be bonded and be completed without phases but as one project. Motion was unanimously approved.
- Motion made to go forward with up to \$20,000 to continue the necessary engineering to move forward with the Sohier Park Project, The motion was unanimously approved.

**Next Meeting:** February 11, 2025 at 5:00pm

**Suggested Agenda Topics:**

- Update on the Sohier Park Project

Submitted by Brian Ross, Vice Chairman