

Chappy Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting
April 28, 2021
5:00 pm

A meeting of the Committee was held on the above date and time via Zoom. Members present were: Bill Brine, John Dropick, Peter Getsinger, Rick Schifter, Sally Snipes, Dana Strayton, Tom Tilghman, Peter Wells and Town Administrator, James Hagerty.

The minutes of the meeting of March 18 meeting were approved.

The Committee agreed that public participation will be permitted in future Committee meetings in a flexible manner allowing attendees to express their views without interfering in the conduct of the meeting.

The Committee deferred consideration of a written version of the “cut line” policy.

Hagerty reported on the submission of a letter to Congressman Keating’s office requesting that the Chappy Ferry be considered as a potential beneficiary of any grants provided by the federal government to address infrastructure impacted by rising sea levels.

The Committee continued a discussion regarding fare issues. Schifter suggested that the goal of the Committee might be to adopt ultimately a set of principles applicable to the determination of rates. To that end, the Committee unanimously agreed (i) that approval by the Selectmen of modifications of all fare classes (not just cash fares) after fair notice to the community should be required and (ii) a designee of the Selectmen should review relevant financial records of the ferry to determine whether any rate modifications are appropriate prior to the Selectmen making the determination.

The Committee continued its discussion regarding the discount for “full time” Chappy residents. Several members suggested expanding the definition of “full time” residents and utilizing alternative methods for qualification that could be verified by the Town, which would issue either resident cards to qualifying individuals or stickers to qualifying cars. The Committee then discussed the need to identify revenue offsets in the event eligibility for the discount is expanded. No conclusions were reached and the discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.