

**Chappy Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**October 13, 2021**  
**4:00 pm**

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

Subject to one modification, the minutes of the meeting of August 26 were approved.

The Committee discussed means of publicizing the temporary modification of the “cut line” policy during the period in which the On Time III will not be in service. It was agreed that Eric Gilley would post a notice on the Chappy Chat page on Facebook. Wells agreed that the Ferry would commence operations prior to 6:30 am if cars are waiting to be transported at that time.

Schifter updated the Committee on discussions with the CIA regarding the possible purchase of a tide gauge, which request is under consideration.

The Committee discussed next steps regarding implementation of the Woods Hole Group recommendation for raising the roads on both ends of the Ferry. Schifter agreed to draft a request for proposals for the design phase of this project.

Tighlman reported on the results of the survey of Chappy residents to determine how many vehicles would become eligible for the resident discount if the changes to the discount program previously discussed by the Committee were implemented. Of the 113 responses received, 17 said they would qualify currently if the changes were adopted and an additional 12 said they would make changes to qualify. This compares to 150 individuals who currently are in the discount program. To increase participation in the survey, Biro said he would ask the CIA to send an email to its members and Wells agreed to reference it in the Chappy Column in the Gazette.

In light of some comments included in the survey responses, the Committee discussed the appropriateness of “freezing” the program, which precludes individuals who would otherwise qualify under the existing rules from receiving the discount. Wells and Snipes agreed to take the matter under consideration and report back at the next Committee meeting.

The Committee next discussed the possible engagement of an accounting firm to review the books and records of the Chappy Ferry Company. The purposes of the engagement would include a review of the reasonableness of the expenses and determination of whether, under the current rate structure, the operation can achieve a return on equity of 5-10% (a range previously considered by the Committee to be reasonable) on a sustainable basis. Schifter agreed to draft a request for proposals in consultation with Biros.

Due to timing considerations, discussion of the ready service concept was deferred until the next meeting.

The Committee then entertained comments from non-Committee member attendees.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

