

GILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Work Session with Glendale Committee
March 31, 2009
Town Hall

The Board of Selectmen convened in a special work session on Tuesday, March 31, 2009, at 8:00 a.m., at the Gilford Town Hall, 47 Cherry Valley Road, Gilford, NH. Selectmen present were Gus Benavides, Kevin Hayes and John O'Brien. Also present were Town Administrator Scott Dunn and Executive Secretary Sandy Bailey. In attendance representing the Glendale Committee were Police Chief John Markland, DPW Director Sheldon Morgan, Director of Planning and Land Use John Ayer, Peter Sutcliffe and Dave Ewing. Absent was Glendale Committee member Denise Morrissette.

Members of the public in attendance were Steve Buzzotta, Harry Blinn, Paul Goodwin and Ann Beane.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. Chairman Benavides stated that the purpose of today's meeting is to prevent the overuse of the Glendale Facilities and utilize the expertise of community members in finalizing a draft for a public hearing. He further stated that the format for today's meeting would be informal and the current draft would be reviewed on a page by page basis.

A brief explanation was provided regarding the format utilized for this current draft.

On Page 2, under 15.4.2 (b), discussion ensued on where Island Decals are displayed on boats. It was determined to change "left side of the stern" to "port side of the transom". Regarding paragraph (a) of the same section, it was pointed out that the word "visitors" can be confusing, since it could be mistaken to mean "guests", rather than "users". After extensive discussion on this matter, Chairman Benavides pointed out that the Board's intent with these regulations is to minimize the number of exceptions at Glendale that will need to be reviewed by the Town Administrator.

Further discussion ensued on the placement of decals on a vehicle, as well as the utilization of a vehicle registration for the verification process in issuing decals. Police Chief Markland pointed out the importance of having the decal on a fixed window in plain view for the Glendale Officers, preferably not on tinted glass. It was determined that decals should be in plain view on a vehicle at all times.

Police Chief Markland also pointed out that his Department cannot disclose defaulted parking tickets and unpaid fines related to the Glendale Facility to the Town Clerk's office, due to privacy issues. This also prompted discussion on the intent of this portion of the regulations, in that persons with unpaid property taxes can receive Town decals, but someone with an unpaid parking ticket cannot. Town Administrator Dunn pointed out that an unpaid parking ticket is a violation, but unpaid taxes are not. In closing, the Police Department cannot provide the Town Clerk's office with a list of unpaid parking tickets. Chief Markland stated that he has received an opinion from the Department of Safety that the Town Clerk's office can view records in their database regarding defaulted parking tickets.

Discussion on Page 3 began with a change in the wording of "entitled" to "eligible".

Extensive discussion then ensued on the matter of issuing guest cards. DPW Director Sheldon Morgan, who is also the Chair of the Glendale Committee, explained the Committee's rationale in recommending guest cards be reduced from three (3) to two (2). Because residents/property owners are eligible for the first guest card free, most people take it whether they really have a need for it or not. Lengthy discussion also followed on whether or not persons with guest cards should also have launching privileges.

Peter Sutcliffe suggested that one guest card be allowed launching privileges, since it unfairly taxes island residents when their guests can't launch. It was pointed out that guests can launch at Fay's Boat Yard, Silver Sands Marina, etc. Parking issues were discussed at length and the fact that if a boat trailer is parked in Lot 4, it must be attached to a vehicle, if it remains there overnight. Chief Markland pointed out that it would be easier for the Glendale Officers if the persons with guest cards were not permitted to launch.

The abuse of guest cards was also discussed, where various persons pointed out how guest cards are routinely given to residents of other communities who utilize the Glendale Docks for the season. Dave Ewing is concerned with the overuse of the Glendale Facility if all resident/property owners utilize their two guest cards. He feels it is very important to cut back on guest cards. Town Administrator Dunn suggested that they try issuing two guest cards, with a cost, and allow them to launch, for the 2009 season. Sheldon Morgan expressed concern with the limited amount of space and time available for tie-ups.

Dave Ewing would like to see the activity at Glendale tracked for the 2009 season. Chief Markland stated that the officers are needed at the launch area and cannot be confined to the parking areas, in order to track vehicles. Various other suggestions were presented on how to limit the overuse of the Glendale Facilities. Ann Beane suggested that the Town Clerk could provide some data on Glendale guest cards in the past and with more data being compared this year, a determination could be made on whether or not the Committee's steps to control overuse are effective.

It was suggested that we could limit guest cards to a total of two (2), with a \$25 card for parking only and a \$50 card for parking and launching. It will be the choice of the resident/property owner to determine which two cards they would like to purchase. Peter Sutcliffe reiterated his concerns of the unique needs of island residents. Discussion ensued on the possibility of color coding different guest passes.

Moving on to paragraph (d) regarding Commercial Marina Permits, Paul Goodwin pointed out that this permit should be for a "Commercial Marine Operator" in the Town of Gilford – the terminology "Marina" is not correct. He also pointed out that the word "permit" should be changed to "decal". Town Administrator Dunn stated that the existing ordinance prohibits any commercial use of the docks.

Paul Goodwin also had comments on paragraph (e) regarding Commercial Construction Permits. He thinks that the fee should be \$25.00 per visit, rather than the proposed \$50.00 per visit. Sheldon Morgan further explained the process and limitations of commercial barges. The Glendale Facility is limited to two (2) barges per day and there is a great deal of difference between a pontoon boat and a 100' barge when utilizing Glendale. Issues concerning providing a written contract from the Town of Gilford property owner were also cited. Sheldon Morgan stated that the application for Commercial Construction must be signed by the owner, to verify that the commercial vessel is utilizing the Glendale Facilities for a Gilford resident/property owner.

Selectman Hayes feels that the differentiation between a commercial barge and pontoon boat should be tied to the length of the vessel, such as under thirty (30) feet. Discussion also ensued on the possibility of changing the “per visit” rate to a daily or half day rate.

The work session ended at 10:33 a.m. Chairman Benavides stated that the Work Session will resume on Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 7:30 a.m., beginning with a review of Page 5.

3. Selectman Hayes moved to appoint Lisa Manz-Buckley as a regular member of the Recreation Commission for a three-year term. John O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman Hayes moved to appoint Leo Sanfacon and Vickie Carrier as alternate members of the Recreation Commission for three-year terms. John O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

4. Selectmen Hayes moved to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) on a roll call vote at 10:39 a.m. Selectman O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. Present were Selectmen Gus Benavides, Kevin Hayes and John O’Brien. Also present were Town Administrator Scott Dunn and Executive Secretary Sandra Bailey.

While in Non-Public Session, the Board discussed recent Zoning Board of Adjustment appointments.

While in Non-Public Session, no action was taken.

Selectman Hayes moved to exit Non-Public Session at 10:58 p.m. Selectman O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

5. Selectman Hayes moved to rescind the recent appointment of Connie Grant as a regular member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment and appoint her as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Selectman O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor.

Selectman Hayes moved to appoint Scott Davis as a regular member of Zoning Board of Adjustment. Selectman O’Brien seconded. Motion carried with all in favor. The Board asked Town Administrator Dunn to publicize this decision.

6. With no further business before the Board, the Board of Selectmen’s March 31, 2009 meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. O’Brien
Clerk