



**TOWN OF SHELTER ISLAND  
SHELTER ISLAND  
NEW YORK**

**Taylor's Island Preservation and Management Committee  
August 11, 2015  
Town Hall  
Minutes**

**Members Present:** Co-Chairs P.A.T. Hunt and Richie Surozenski, Barbara "Buzz" Clark, Keith Clark, Carol Galligan, Kathy Gooding, Steve Lenox and Town Board Liaison Ed Brown.

**Guests:** Harriet Reilly O'Halloran, Julie Ben-Susan, Jay Card

**Meeting called to order:** 9:06 AM

A motion was made to accept the July 14, 2015 minutes by Kathy Gooding and seconded by Keith Clark; the minutes were approved.

**Old Business:**

**Cabin Interior and Exterior**

**New Windows:** We were informed by Reilly Windows and Doors that the three double hung windows are in the production queue and will be ready for installation in September. Following their installation, the remaining board and batten on the south and west sides of the Cabin will be replaced with faux logs.

**Repointing Chimney:** Keith will buy the product Thoroseal and Jason will apply.

**Gas fireplace and logs:** Nothing new to report.

**Stain on logs, paint on windows:** Pat and Julie visited the Cabin on July 22 with Jason Shields and reviewed the punch list which he'll be able to get to mid-August.

**Porch deck and railings:** The deck will be refinished and the railings will follow. Meanwhile, a rope/line is going from post to post along the north side of the Cabin.

**Full bathroom:** The chimney bricks will be removed along with the damaged flooring. An oak floor is proposed. Once opened up, the size of the claw foot tub will be determined, purchased and installed.

**Kitchen:** Once the bathroom is complete, the kitchen will be addressed.

**Financial Business:**

**July 31, 2015 Bank Statements:**

Co-Chair Hunt reported the Chase Business High Yield Savings Account balance is \$39,701.66, which includes interest of \$0.33. The Bridgehampton National Bank balance is \$12,218.16, which includes interest of \$0.31. With the BNB bank statement Kathy Sullivan included paperwork regarding Mr. Taylor's trust that accompanied his gift of the Cedar Island property.

**SAM Funding from Senator Ken LaValle:** Pat had a telephone conversation with Sarah Antonacci who told her the SAM grant paperwork was submitted on May 18, 2015. Sarah had no idea when we'd be notified of its acceptance.

**NYSOPR&HP Hurricane Sandy Grant:** Pat shared an email Jay received from Stacey Matson-Zuvic and forwarded to her regarding being awarded \$350,000, under the second round of funding, for the Taylor's Island South Seawall Replacement Project. The press release included the following:

Taylor's Island South Seawall Replacement Project - \$350,000  
Taylor's Island serves the public as an outdoor recreational and educational attraction for hikers, swimmers and boaters. Taylor's Island and its seawalls help protect the National Register-listed Smith-Taylor Cabin. During Hurricane Sandy, water came over the south concrete seawall to within 20 feet of the cabin. The Town of Shelter Island is proposing to design and install a new natural boulder seawall that is capable of withstanding expected tidal surge and wave action.

Pat read a two page letter she wrote to the Committee stating her strong preference for repair rather than replacement of a stretch of the 1938 cement seawall and apologized for not stressing her views, expressed earlier, with more clarity; whether this is possible or not has yet to be determined. She also asked for further discussion from the Committee so that each member is heard. Specifically, she suggested an inclusive group visit the Island for a closer look; there was agreement this should take place as soon as possible. Pat will make arrangements, once she hears from Jay about his and Town Engineer John Cronin's availability and look to include the architects, along with Committee and Foundation members.

All present expressed their opinions in a lengthy discussion. "Shorthand" versions follow:

Kathy: There were a lot of cracks, generally in favor of replacement.

Pat: The architects were not included in the original discussion, they have since commented and oppose total replacement. Regret that with the rush to meet the application deadline, there was not more forethought.

Carol: That would be a major modification to our suggestion, not what they're giving us the money for. How do we even know this is possible?

Pat: Thinks it probably is because of emphasis on "Historic" and probably less costly.

Keith: Is there a timeline here? The money was allotted for a "forever" wall, which he thinks would be environmentally better. In any event, the repairs must be made in a timely fashion or we could lose the cabin.

Jay: We don't know if we can alter plan. Have to see.

Harriet: Important thing is to have a closer look. Agreed emphasis was to keep the cabin safe.

Julie: Cited another case of repair in an historic district, showed photos.

Pat: Her only purpose, she wanted to underline, was to explore further and be certain of a decision that was "inclusive".

Ed: The committee's intent is "fine," expressed concern that changes could lead to a reversal and adversely affect future applications. Wanted us to attend Board Meeting that afternoon.

Carol: Too soon. We don't know yet what we want to do.

Julie: Agreed.

Ed: Next week at the latest.

All agreed, if possible.

Richie: Changing his mind. Mostly would like to keep it as it was 50 years ago if possible. If it's changed, it's not the original anymore. He would like it restored "to back when."

Carol: Safety the first requirement. Which is safer? This is supposed to be "forever."

Pat: "Forever" is a buzzword.

Kathy: We should get Cronin's input, he's the engineer.

Carol: Should call the discussion now, more later, after we go out to the Island.

Pat: Will arrange date and time and notify.

### **Update on Work Accomplished on Taylor's Island and Future Plans:**

**Generator bunk house:** Richie will check with Mary Wilson and get an update.

**Fixed dock stairs to Island:** All agreed the new sturdy wooden stairs with handrails on both sides are great.

**Truck:** The logo with burgee is now on the doors and looks great.

**Ship's wheel:** Richie reported that he, Keith and Stevie located a ship's wheel in Greenport that they would like to purchase personally and donate in honor of their fathers to replace the one removed from the main cabin. The idea was accepted with appreciation.

### **New Business:**

Richie proposed having an outdoor guestbook for visitors to sign when the Cabin isn't open. Location and weatherproofing concerns were explored. The possibility of incorporating the guestbook into the landing box Keith made and installed by the west door several years ago was suggested. No decision reached.

### **Taylor's Island Foundation News:**

**Update on Website and facebook:** For the month of July there were 502 visits and 1,731 page views. To date, Taylor's Island has 578 likes on facebook.

**Boat Donation:** The highest sealed bid was for \$850, received by Richard Ruscica, Jr.

**2015 Kettle Clambake:** The Kettle Clambake sold out in record time and had a lengthy waiting list. There was agreement that things went smoothly, the transportation worked well and the weather was perfect. Mary Ellen Mcgayhey was available to photograph and record for Channel 22. Two tents worked well, actually better, some people thought. Five prizes were raffled off, the winners being Mara Lipner, the overnight stay at the historic Smith-Taylor Cabin during the 2016 season; Magda Saleh, the sunset cruise around Shelter Island aboard Keith and Louise Clark's M/V *Pequod*; Lauren Gooding, the 2015 handpainted S-T Cabin plate by Stephanie Sareyani; Tut Tuttle, the two tickets for a harbor tour aboard the solar powered *Glory* in Greenport; Angela van Rynbach, the fishing trip for two with Capt. Steve Lenox aboard *Sunrise to Sunset*.

**Stonington Harbor and Watch Hill Yacht Clubs' Rendezvous:** These clubs, from Connecticut and Rhode Island, with a combined total of 30-35 attendees, enjoyed a potluck barbecue on Taylor's Island on Saturday, August 1. They picked up moorings at the Coecles Harbor Marina, as well as anchored in our Town anchorage site.

**The next meeting date is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2015.**

**Meeting Adjourned:** 10:26 AM

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Galligan