

RECREATION & COMMUNITY
ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING

A G E N D A

TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE

November 12, 2013 - 5:00 P.M. – Council Chambers - Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

AGENDA ADOPTION:

1. Watermans Memorial
 - Review proposed concept plan for Robert Reed Park
2. Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park Playground
 - Review proposed strategy for Playground Master Plan and Fundraising
3. DCR Trails Grant
 - Recommend application for \$43,000 to repave the Nature Trail (due December 5, 2013)
4. Project Report Updates
5. Committee Member Comments

ADJOURN:

Next Meeting – October 8, 2013 or November 12, 2013 (Budget recommendations)



STAFF REPORT

To: Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee

Through: Robert G. Ritter, Town Manager

From: William Neville, Planning Director

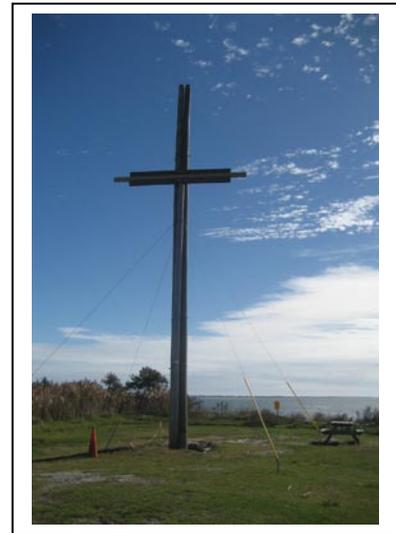
Date: September 6, 2013 (**Revised November 12, 2013**)

Subject: Chincoteague Waterman's Memorial

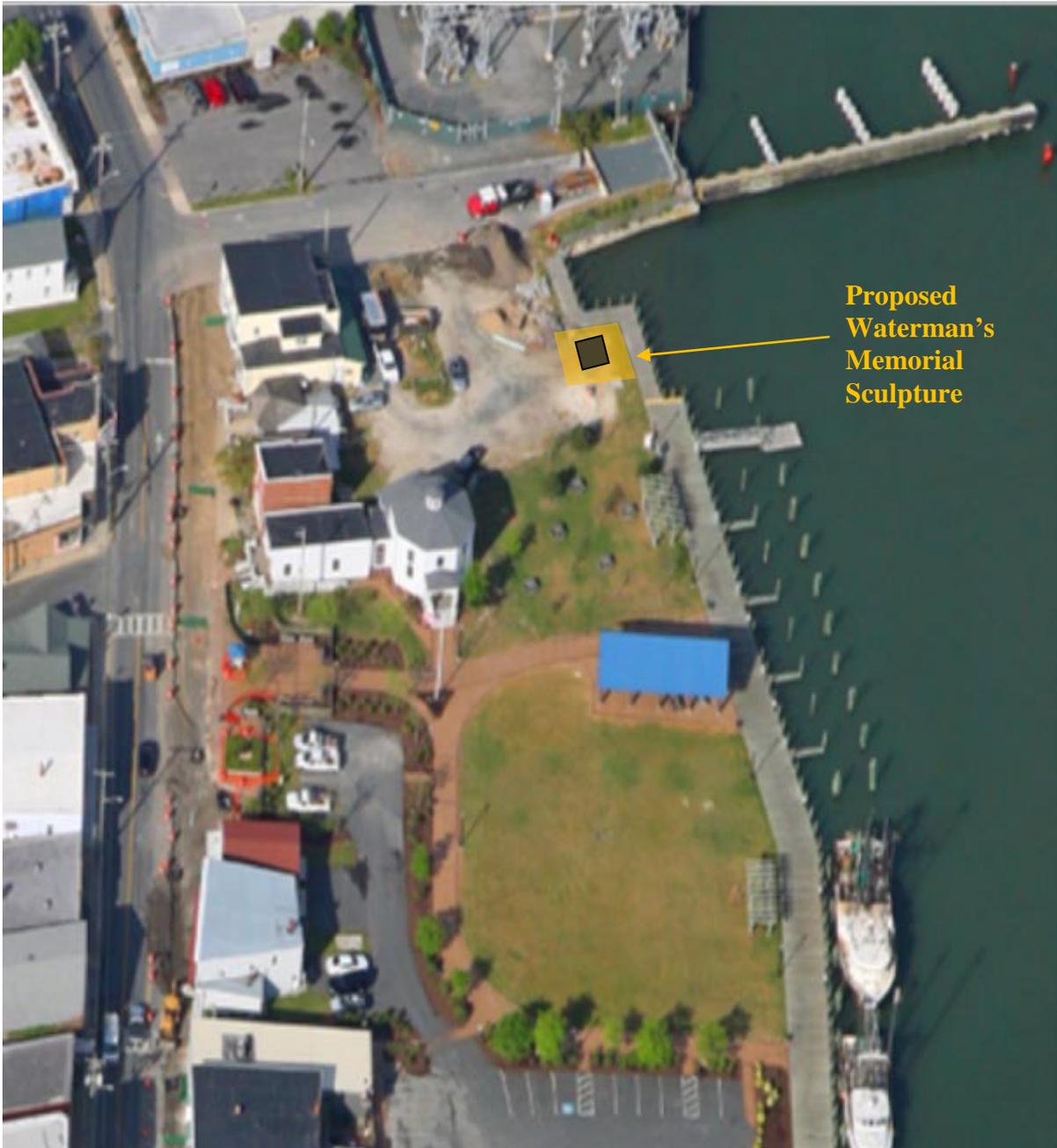
- ❖ Review proposed addition of a Waterman's Memorial Sculpture to the Robert Reed Waterfront Park Master Plan
-

The Committee previously reviewed a 'ship's mast' memorial that is currently under construction at Mariners Point. Mr. Barry Abell also proposed that a Waterman's Memorial Sculpture similar in scale to the famous 'Gloucester fisherman' should be located at the Robert Reed Downtown Waterfront Park. Attached are several views of the Park Expansion area between the Library and the waterfront that may provide a suitable location.

The Committee considered the area needed for this type of memorial, the height and dimension of landscape features such as the wall and sculpture, and the circulation of people and other activities within the Park. It was determined at the last meeting that a memorial wall would require too large an area, however the location of a sculpture could provide a point of interest in the new park area behind the Library with opportunities for research and reflection.



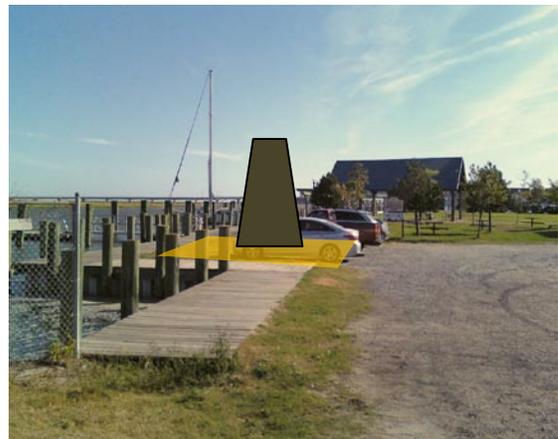
Another example is provided from a similar memorial in Maryland that is the right scale for a Downtown location and would be suitable for a visitor experience that captures views of the waterfront and commercial fishing boats. Mr. Abell requested support for this idea and direction from the Town at previous Council meetings. The Committee may wish to prepare a recommendation to Town Council for amendment to the Robert Reed Park master plan.



**Proposed
Waterman's
Memorial
Sculpture**



Example from Gloucester MA



Proposed location in Chincoteague VA



STAFF REPORT

To: Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee

Through: Robert G. Ritter, Town Manager

From: William Neville, Planning Director

Date: November 12, 2013

Subject: Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park Playground

❖ Review strategy for Playground Master Plan and Fundraising

Committee members heard a request from the community at the last meeting to repair and replace playground equipment at Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park. Following the recent removal of several damaged play structures and dead trees, several strategies should be considered for what improvements can and should be made:

- 1) Identify age appropriate play structures to replace the existing facilities
- 2) Prioritize and establish a schedule to complete the work
- 3) Request funding from Town Council through the annual budget process, apply for grants, promote sponsorship opportunities, or work with community groups for fundraising campaigns

A more comprehensive approach would include: a subcommittee/citizen working group, a community survey, a master plan, major site renovation to elevate play areas above flooding, and a landscape plan.



Virginia Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

Applications are being accepted; the deadline is **Dec. 5, 2013, at 4 p.m.** Read below about associated workshops.

Workshops

The workshops are first-come, first-served.

Nov. 12 workshop: Bear Creek Lake State Park, 10 a.m. RSVP by noon on Nov. 6 by emailing synthia.waymack@dcr.virginia.gov. Reference *RTP-Bear Creek Nov. 12 Workshop* in the subject line.

Nov. 18 workshop: Hungry Mother State Park's Hemlock Haven Conference Center, 1 p.m. RSVP by noon on Nov. 13 by emailing synthia.waymack@dcr.virginia.gov. Reference *RTP-HMSP Nov. 12 Workshop* in the subject line.

Overview

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a matching reimbursement grant program that provides for the creation and maintenance of trails and trail facilities. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds the program, which DCR administers in Virginia..

RTP funds come from federal gasoline tax revenues, some of which are used for recreation activities and for non-gasoline tax supported roads. FHWA prescribes many of the regulations governing this program. Grants may go to registered nonprofit organizations, city governments, county governments or other government entities but must be considered in accord with guidance from the Virginia Recreational Trails Program Advisory Committee. The RTP requires that 30 percent of trail program funds be used for motorized (ATV, OHV, dirt-bikes, etc.) recreational trail uses, 30 percent for non-motorized recreational trails uses, and 40 percent for proposals with the greatest number of compatible recreational purposes and/or those that provide for innovative recreational trail corridor sharing (multiple-use trails).

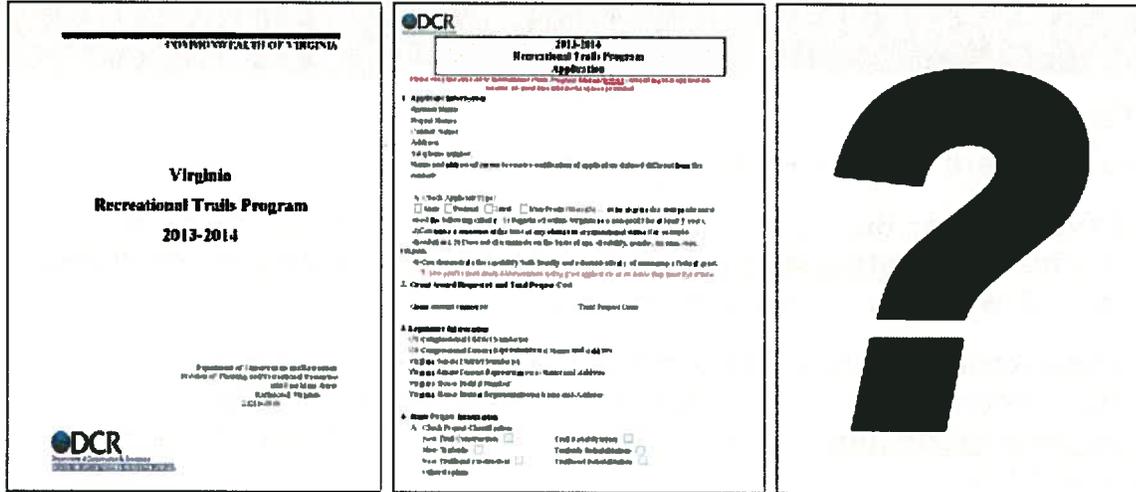
This is a matching reimbursement program. The sponsoring entity must be able to finance the project while requesting periodic reimbursements. All projects must have at least a 20 percent match. Proposals for planning, gap



analysis or feasibility studies are ineligible, as are projects involving condemnation.

RTP grants are for recreational trails, not trails with more utilitarian transportation value. Grants usually run from \$25,000 to \$200,000.

How to compete for a Recreational Trails Program Award



Click on the above thumbnails to download (l to r) [the manual](#) (PDF) and [the application form](#) (Word). Click on [the large question mark](#) for an FAQ regarding the program.

Eight paper copies and one electronic copy (on a CD or jump drive) of the completed RTP application **must be in DCR's possession by 4 p.m. on Dec. 5, 2013**. Those received after that time will not be considered. A postmark alone is not sufficient for acceptance, and emailed applications will not be accepted.

The Virginia Recreational Trails Advisory Committee reviews and scores applications against [published scoring criteria](#) (PDF). Projects recommended for funding must go through an environmental analysis in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. At a minimum, this includes the Endangered Species Act, Historic Preservation Act, Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 for Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection, and, if applicable to the specific project, a Consistency Determination in accordance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

**Recreation and Community Enhancement
Committee Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2013**

Committee Members Present:

John Jester, Chairman
Terry Howard, Councilman
Gene Wayne Taylor, Councilman
Jack Van Dame
Bob Conklin
David Johnson
Nancy Lane

Staff Present:

Robert G. Ritter, Town Manager
William Neville, Town Planner
Harvey Spurlock, Public Works Director

Others Present:

Ray Rosenberger
Nancy Rosenberger
Drew Jorgensen
Donnie Thornton

Call to Order

Chairman Jester called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM

Agenda Adoption

Councilman Terry Howard motioned, seconded by Mr. David Johnson to adopt the agenda. Unanimously approved.

1.(A) Memorial Park

Chairman Jester stated he received an email from Heather Jorgensen about the condition of the park. Mrs. Jorgensen was concerned with the placement of the six by six boards near the playground equipment as well as other concerns.

Public Works Director Spurlock advised the committee of the recent work that the department has been doing in the park. He stated that some of the trees were destroyed due to salt water and that they had been removing them from the park.

Mr. Drew Jorgensen stated he has a five year old girl who goes to the park often and has seen the park conditions deteriorate over the years. He would like to see some improvements as he is concerned with some safety issues.

Mr. Jack Van Dame stated his concern with the dome and swings.

Chairman Jester suggested an amount to be set aside each year in the budget for playground equipment. He would like to have some user input and maybe look into grant monies as well as local involvement from community organizations.

1.(B) Watermans Memorial

Chairman Jester stated he has been in contact with Mr. Barry Abell in reference to a statue at Robert Reed Park. There were concerns with the raffle of the boat.

Mr. Donnie Thornton stated he believed that Mariners Point was the best place for the statue due to all the memorials already in Robert Reed Park. He stated Mariners Point would allow the working waterman returning to the Harbor to see the statue as it was in their honor.

Town Manager Ritter also mentioned the possibility of the newly acquired bridge property as a possible location.

Mr. Van Dame stated in the beginning Mariners Point was the only place that was mentioned in the placement of a memorial to the waterman.

Mr. Bob Conklin feels Mr. Abell has done a great job in raising money for the project. Chairman Jester asked if the Committee supported a 5' x 5' plot for the statue in Robert Reed Park, there were various answers. The matter will be placed on the next committee agenda.

2. Project Report Updates

Town Planner Neville updated the committee on the following projects.

Ocean Boulevard Extended

This project should be completed in October. The committee is working with USFW to obtain grant funds for paving the trail.

CNWR Bike Trail Extension

The Town is working with CNWR to possibly pave the bike lane from AJ's to the traffic circle.

Downtown Main Street/ Robert Reed Park

Mr. Neville is going to present plans back to the committee at the next meeting so they can recommend approval of any changes that have been proposed.

Hallie Whealton Smith Drive

VDOT didn't allocate enough grant money to complete design for the whole trail. Mr. Neville is working with them to get the funds needed.

Island Nature Trail

Some of the damaged trees from Hurricane Sandy have been removed.

3. Committee Member Comments

Ms. Nancy Lane had questions about the Killock Shoals Lighthouse. She asked if the committee was interested in possibly maintaining the landmark.

Mr. Van Dame asked about a checklist on the maintenance of the park equipment.

ADJOURN:

Councilman Howard motioned seconded by Mr. Van Dame to adjourn.