MINUTES

Present: Robert Driscoll (Chair), Lori Leary (Vice-Chair), Ken Otstot, Cathy Patterson, Wayne Billian, Joe Cronin (Town Administrator)

Absent: None

Guests: Suyin George (Bohicket Marina)

Chairman Driscoll called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm. Town Administrator Cronin confirmed that the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act were fulfilled and the meeting agenda was properly posted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **March 21, 2018**: Ms. Leary made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2018, special called meeting, as submitted. Mr. Otstot seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.

OLD BUSINESS ITEMS

There were no Old Business Items.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Temporary Use Request: Governor’s Billfish Tournament**: Town Administrator Cronin provided a brief overview of the request, the purpose of which was to review and provide a recommendation on a temporary use permit for the 2018 Bohicket Marina Governor’s Invitational Billfish Tournament at Bohicket Marina. Town Administrator Cronin noted that the Billfish Tournament would be preceded by the marina’s annual Dolphin Slam on April 28th. Though the Billfish Tournament was scheduled to take place between May 9th and 12th, the applicants were requesting permission to leave the stage and sponsor signage up between the two events. Because the Dolphin Slam is a one-day event, a temporary use permit for that event may be approved administratively by the zoning administrator.

   Mr. Otstot asked if the stage would impede traffic at the marina. Ms. Suyin George of Bohicket Marina responded that while the stage would be visible on the back side of the
marina, it would not impede traffic. The stage will be donated by a scaffold company, and will provide a good backdrop for the weigh-in events during the tournament. She added that the stage would be difficult to disassemble and reassemble between the Dolphin Slam and Billfish Tournament, which is why the marina was seeking approval for it to remain in place between the two events.

Ms. Leary stated that she was familiar with the Billfish Tournament, but had not heard of the Dolphin Slam before. Ms. George responded that unlike the Billfish Tournament, which draws a large number of participants from outside the area, the Dolphin Slam was a one-day event designed primarily for local fishermen. She stated that the Dolphin Slam typically has between 75 and 90 boats. She added that last year’s Billfish Tournament had 29 boats, while more than 40 boats have already been reserved for this year. Ms. George also stated that the marina was seeking to capitalize on recently being named as Charleston’s best marina by Charleston City Paper.

Mr. Otstot asked if the restaurants would be able to handle the crowds following the temporary closure of Red’s Icehouse due to a fire in March. Ms. George responded that there will be food tents at the Billfish Tournament to offset the temporary loss of Red’s.

Mr. Otstot made a motion to recommend in favor of approving the temporary use permit, as submitted. Ms. Leary seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION

1. **Joint Meeting with Town Council**: Town Administrator Cronin reminded members that a joint meeting has been scheduled between the Planning Commission and Town Council has been scheduled for April 19th at 2:30 pm. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the upcoming 10-year update to the town’s comprehensive plan.

There being no further business, Mr. Otstot made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Billian seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved by a vote of 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:44 pm.

Minutes Approved: May 2, 2018

Joseph M. Cronin
Town Administrator