

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 5/19/2011
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: James Newman, Chairman, Spencer Booker, Beverly Wright

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Harbormaster Brian Vanderhoop, Town Accountant Margie Spitz, Shellfish Committee Chairman Buddy Vanderhoop.

The meeting began at 7:00 pm.

Jim began the meeting by welcoming Beverly to the Board. There was a review of the minutes from May 3rd & 9th
Spencer made a motion to accept the minutes from May 3rd. Jim seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1 to accept the minutes from May 3rd, 2011.

Spencer made a motion to accept the minutes from May 9th. Jim Seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1 to accept the minutes from May 9th, 2011.

-The next item on the agenda was an update of the Mass Estuaries Agreement. Adam reported it had been signed off by UMass – Dartmouth. There was discussion about the different parties involved in the agreement. Beverly pointed out that Camille Rose was designated as the point person for the contract and that other documents related to the contract were missing. Jim said he'd follow up on the materials missing from the document and figure out who would take Camille's place as point person for the Town and UMass.

-Next on the agenda was the Chairmanship appointment. Spencer made a motion to appoint Jim as Chairman for 2011 – 12. Beverly seconded. There was discussion about the need to have a vote. Margie pointed out that there was a precedent where a selectman slated to become chairman was not voted in.

The Board voted 2 – 0 -1 to approve. The motion carried.

Jim made a motion to have Spencer become Vice chairman for 2011 – 12. Beverly seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 -1 to approve. The motion carried.

-Next on the agenda was a discussion about a recent bill from ESS for maintenance services for the Aquinnah Cultural Center.

There was talk about what is in the lease that the ACC is responsible for. Adam clarified that the contract in question was for service and separate from the monitoring contract ESS has in place as well. Jim felt the Town should cover the contract. He said it's part of the building and not a requirement of the Lessee to have.

By Consensus, the Board agreed the Town would pay for the proposed 3 year service contract with ESS.

-The next discussion was about the recent appointments of extra Shellfish Constables by the Board at the request of the Tribal Natural Resources Director. Buddy had a complaint that the appointments weren't reviewed by the Shellfish Committee. Jim said it was the Board's understanding that the appointments were made because Brian had sought extra help from the Tribe and utilization of the Town Boat while he was away on a winter vacation. Brian said that Brett needed the town boat until March to do the winter flounder restoration project.

There was discussion about the current 4 constables and their duties. Buddy stated that "out of town" people have now been made constables as well. Spencer pointed out the appointments are temporary – 30 days with an allowance for 30 more.

-Buddy talked about the revision of the shellfish regulations. He thought a lawyer should be present to go over them. There is still an overall concern about the language of residency requirements. He emphasized the need for being a resident for a year in order to get a license. There was an agreement that the Board and the Shellfish Committee would meet after the next scheduled BOS meeting June 7th to go over all the revisions needing to be made of the regulations and then send the proposed amended regulations to Counsel.

-Jim asked Brian if there needs to be further discussion about keeping the Tribal Shellfish Constables. Brian said they should stay on for the extended 30 days and debated whether or not to keep them permanently.

-Next on the agenda was a review of the town committees needing membership. Questions on the number of members needed for each committee was talked about. 3-4 for the Personnel committee, 3 + 1 - 2 alternates for the Finance Committee. There was discussion about the Moderator knowing that the Board wants to recruit people for him to appoint to that committee. The Board talked about replacing Camille as the Board's representative to the CPC.

Spencer made a motion to have Beverly be the Board's representative to the Town's Community Preservation Committee. Jim seconded.

The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1 in favor. The motion passed.

-Jim said there should also be recruitment for an ad hoc committee to oversee the Town's qualification as a "Green" community. He said this committee would also be able to oversee the Town's effort to get solar paneling at the refuse center. Jim asked Adam if he had a mailing list to send out a recruitment notice. Adam said he'd get it on the web site as well as advertising in the newspaper.

-There was discussion by the Board on the need to recruit more firemen for the department and EMT's for the Town. Board members talked about the different positions needed to make an emergency response successful. Sponsoring an event to get a volunteer drive was reviewed. Members felt the fire chief should be working towards putting that type of event on.

-Beverly brought up the concerns made about her having a conflict of interest serving on two governmental boards and that she has the paperwork and forms stating her position. She just needs to sign a document at the beginning of her term indicating that she does sit on the Tribal Council but has no conflict with the Board. Jim pointed out that he is paid by the Tribe for tutoring. Spencer remarked that he lives in tribal housing.

-There was discussion about meeting regularly the 1st and 3rd Tuesday's of each month at 5:30 pm. Detective Ryan Ruley let the Board know that on Friday the Police, Fire and Tribal Natural Resources Department will have a rescue drill on the beach as a way of identifying practical ways to get 1st responders to isolated areas and problem solve those access points needed either through public or private ways.

-A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The Board voted 3 – 0 to approve. The motion carried.

The meeting ended at 8:00.