

DRAFT  
Aquinnah Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of Meeting 2/15/2011  
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Camille Rose, Chairman, Spencer Booker, Jim Newman

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Randhi Belain, Julianne Turner, Chris Murphy, Paul Manning.

The meeting began at 5:30 pm.

-1<sup>st</sup> agenda item was a review of the minutes from Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> and Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. Motions were made and seconded by members of the Board present at those meetings.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1 in favor each time to accept the minutes from the 3 prior meetings.**

-Next on the agenda was a request for the Board to consider an override to the budget line item for emergency snow removal. Adam explained there was only \$2,500 left in the budget for the remainder of winter. Jim made a motion to add \$1,000 to the snow removal budget. Spencer seconded.

**The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-The 2<sup>nd</sup> item on the agenda was a request from the Up Island Council on Aging to have the Board give signatory authority to Adam for all grant proposals submitted by the UICOA. Adam read a memo from UICOA Director Joyce Bowker stating that in prior years the former Town Administrator had this responsibility.

Spencer made a motion to have Town Administrator Adam Wilson be the Town's signatory for all UICOA grant applications. Jim seconded.

**The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-The next item on the agenda was approval from the Board to have Town Administrator as signatory for Selectmen's Office employee time sheets. Camille said Adam is in a better position to know what work time is being used for town hall employees and also because payroll needs to be expeditiously turned over and he is right there to accomplish that task.

Jim made a motion to have the Town Administrator be the primary signatory for Selectmen's Office time sheets. Spencer seconded. In the discussion Jim said he'd like to see better record keeping for absenteeism due to sickness, vacation, personal days and comp time.

**The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-The 4<sup>th</sup> agenda item was a permission request from Fall River Amateur Radio Club to use Aquinnah Circle for amateur radio expedition May 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>.

Jim made a motion to allow use of the Aquinnah Circle for the Fall Amateur Radio Club May 6<sup>th</sup> thru the 8<sup>th</sup>. Spencer seconded.

**The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-Next on the agenda was a discussion of Kennedy – Schlossberg Mass. Estuaries Project contribution on behalf of Aquinnah. Camille pointed out that the state was requiring every to do a study of its coastal ponds and bodies of water. The estimated cost for the study of Menemsha and Squibnocket

Pond is close to 100K with Aquinnah's portion being 32,000. The family has agreed in the '06 DRI decision to give up to \$15,000 for the project expense.

There was discussion on writing the letter and the total cost for the study. Camille said MVC Land Use Planner Bill Wilcox said it's likely there will be added costs to be paid for later. Camille said the Board needs to accept the contribution and write a letter stating such and where to send the money. She said the amount the town has to raise will not be on this year's warrant but another one sometime in the future and that the town may borrow the money instead of raising and appropriating.

Jim made a motion to accept the \$15,000 contribution from the Kennedy – Schlossberg family for the Menemsha – Squibnocket Mass Estuaries project. Spencer seconded.

**The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

The sixth item was the scheduling of the FinCom/Selectmen budget meetings. Adam handed a report showing the following departments had handed in their budget requests by the February deadline: Animal Control, Assessor, Building, Fire, Harbormaster/Shellfish, Highway/Public Works, Moderator, Planning Board, Selectmen's Office, Tax Collector and Treasurer.

The Selectmen scheduled the following dates and times to meet:

Tuesday 2/22 @ 5:30 pm, Wednesday 2/23 @ 7:30 am, Thursday 2/24 @ 7:30 am & Friday 2/25 @ 7:30 am.

Camille asked Adam to post the meeting dates & times.

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with Julianne Turner, the Executive Director of MVTV. She spoke about MVTV's Proposal for the future.

Julie talked about what she has done since coming here 6 months ago. MVTV has gone through an appraisal of their services (Community needs assessment). She talked about the number of members the organization has and how web site information gets more people to view MVTV shows. The organization did a telephone survey with results indicating that a lot of people do watch the 3 community service channels and how subscribers hope to see more community programming in the future. The survey showed how residents think of ComCast as a satisfying cable television resource. Julie has put together a proposal which will have more government viewing service. She said down the road there can be live broadcasts from the Selectmen's meeting room. Media and digital literacy in the schools are planned. Julie said they have \$450K in reserves to upgrade the current facility and the capital equipment purchases. She said they need more 350K in order to accomplish everything they want to do with their facility.

-Camille asked about membership and who it is. She explained \$25 individual membership gives access to classes and equipment uses to produce programming. Camille asked about approvals for expenditures. Julianne said there is a 14 member board with representatives from around the island that votes MVTV's budget and capital expenditures.

-On the agenda for other selectmen's business was the approval of a Town Hall Interior Lighting contract. Adam reported sending out a request for estimates to replace all the interior lighting in the Town Hall with more efficient LED Lighting. His request got a response from two electricians: one from Gary Haley, who estimated the work costing \$11,895, and the other from Aurora Lighting Solutions for \$24,277. The selectmen reviewed Haley's estimated bid.

By consensus the Selectmen agreed to award the contract to Gary Haley to remove the existing light fixtures in Town Hall and replace them with energy efficient LED lighting. Adam said he can get the light for the police sign taken care of as well.

-Camille requested the board take up the matter of the cliff lot leases and meeting with the Highway Department the Board of Health about the growing costs of waste disposal from the cliffside establishments. Camille suggested to meet with Jay and Amanda Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 am.

-Camille asked Adam to contact the Tribe to set up the annual Town/Tribe public safety meeting. The preference is for a Tuesday but not March 8<sup>th</sup>.

-The Board took up the matter of approval of new schedule fee for Fire Department smoke & CO permits.

By consensus the Board agreed to raise the permit fee to \$50.00 for smoke & CO permits.

Next item was a vote to approve an amendment to the Tri Town agreement for additional wording to the Agreement, in the section pertaining to purchases, after the word “ambulances”:

“and equipment that exceeds the cost of \$2,000.00”

Camille talked about the need to change the language and that the Aquinnah ambulance will benefit from having a new computer + a stair climber as a result. There was discussion on how spending gets approved at town meeting.

Jim made a motion to approve the amended language in the agreement to include –“and equipment that exceeds the cost of \$2,000.00. Spencer seconded.

**The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-Chris Murphy spoke briefly about his new role as chairman of the MVC.

-A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

**The Board voted 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

-The meeting ended at 6:15 pm.