

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of Meeting 1/17/2012  
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Jim Newman, Chairman, Beverly Wright

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator;

The meeting began at 5:30 pm

Under old business was a review of the minutes from 12/20. Beverly made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Jim seconded.

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

1<sup>st</sup> on the agenda was a vote to accept the new Tri-Town Agreement. Beverly and Jim looked at the changes and specifically what was rewritten in section # 5 and # 9.

Beverly made a motion to accept the new agreement. Jim seconded.

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

Jim and Beverly signed the agreement. There was discussion about who would serve on the new Tri-Town Committee. By consensus the Board selected Jim to serve on the newly formed Tri-Town Ambulance Committee for the 1<sup>st</sup> year.

-The 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda item was a discussion of naming of a Town Poet Laureate. Jim and Beverly talked about the process. Questions were asked if there should be a nomination process and what to seek from qualified applicants. Jim asked Adam to investigate the process other towns have used in picking a Town Poet Laureate and to report back at the next meeting.

-Next on the agenda was a discussion on having a town hall employee retreat for future municipal planning. Jim said it would be a great accomplishment if the town could put together a five and/or ten year plan for town government. Jim also wants someone from VADAR to be part of the all day retreat to talk about the future of software accounting and “cloud” technology. Jim said the Town would have lunch for everyone as part of the program.

The Selectmen agreed to set a tentative date for February 21<sup>st</sup> and would confirm it once a facilitator was found to run the retreat.

-Next on the agenda was a vote to follow recent changes in state law regarding health care reform. Beverly made a motion for the Town of Aquinnah to elect to engage in the process to change health insurance benefits under M.G.L. c. 32B Sec. 21 – 23. Jim seconded. Adam explained that the vote was required so that the Town's joint purchasing group, Cape Cod Municipal Health Group, could effectively negotiate with the State's Group Insurance Commission various health care plans that are designed to significantly reduce premiums by raising co-pays and deductibles as mandated in the change in the law.

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

-The Board moved onto the agenda item asking for a vote to support the State Community Challenge Grant being written by the Town of Edgartown and the County for a new municipal building to support the MV Center for Living's senior day care program.

Beverly made a motion to support the County and Edgartown's effort.

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

Adam gave his administrative report.

- Highway Superintendent Jay Smalley plans on doing a controlled burn of roadside brush in the Town's circle parking lot within the next two weeks. He will get a burn permit from the fire dept.
- The DAS system's construction is moving forward. Starting today American Tower will be working on the 11 poles going up in Chilmark and in 3 week's time will be working on the 4 scheduled to go up in Aquinnah
- West Tisbury's FinCom has invited the BOS to attend their next school budget review meeting on Jan 31 @ 4:30 pm at the Town's public safety building.
- There is a planned meeting with Town Counsel to discuss the solar array documents scheduled for Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The Fire Chief candidate interview is being rescheduled. It is hoped to be done this week.
- The next meeting to discuss the Menemsha Lease lots is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Jim asked that Adam put out the meeting with Counsel on the web site and in community e-mail so the public can plan to attend.

-There was discussion about who could facilitate the February Municipal retreat.

Beverly made a motion to adjourn. Jim seconded.

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

-The meeting ended at 6:00 pm.