

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of Meeting 8/21/2012  
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Spencer Booker, Chairman, Beverly Wright,

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator; 7 Families Representative Jessica Roddy. Town Clerk Carolyn Feltz

The meeting began at 5:04 pm

Under old business was a review of the minutes from the Selectmen's meeting August 7th.

-Beverly made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Spencer seconded.

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

-1<sup>st</sup> on the agenda was a letter from June Manning asking to serve on the Board of the Up-Island Council on Aging to fulfill the remaining term of the late Gladys Widdiss. Spencer asked if an appointment had already been made. Adam said there is a need to have two appointed members and back on July 17<sup>th</sup> the Board appointed Jean Lince to fill one of those positions.

Beverly made a motion to appoint June to fill Gladys' position and remaining term as a full member to the Council on Aging Board. Spencer seconded.

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

-Next on the agenda was a request from the MV Rotary Club to allow the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Cycle Martha's Vineyard Bicycle Challenge along Aquinnah roads for Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Adam explained that the club needed permission from all six towns in order to get the necessary permits from the state highway department. The bike challenge will have 300 participants and its 100 K route will travel through both Chilmark and Aquinnah.

Beverly made a motion to give permission for the Rotary Cycle challenge to occur in and through the Town of Aquinnah October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Spencer seconded.

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

-The Board met next with Jessica Roddy, who is with the 7 Families Trust, property owners of land abutting Philbin Beach. A handout was given showing a site plan of the Trust's land and a Cartographic Associate's aerial photo of the properties off Moshup's Trail. Jessica stated that part of the parking lot path leading to the beach goes over the Trust's property. Adam pointed out that the site plan being viewed was certified from 2006. She explained that originally land they thought they owned further up the beach was in fact owned by the Land Bank. That land has some parking space already on it but the land they own now does not. She said she had some discussion with a former selectmen looking for a remedy but the sticking point were conservation restrictions that don't allow development in a coastal resource area and zoning bylaws that don't allow parking lots within 500' of the ocean's high water mark. There was discussion about most members of the Trust not being Aquinnah residents and therefore not eligible for Philbin Beach stickers. Jessica said there are only 3 families that come to the island and most stay in Chilmark.

-Jessica talked about the recent reevaluation that's been done and the taxed increase in the property in spite of its inaccessible use. She said they are looking for some kind of relief and until it can be found they want to state for the record that residents' use of that part of the path that splits off at the top of the dune going to the right is trespassing on private land and the Town should make everyone aware of it.

-Carolyn pointed out that in prior years the town has always established a boardwalk during the summer going to the left as an indicator that it was the correct path to follow to the beach. Beverly said the issue may require the 7 Families Trust putting up a "No Trespassing" sign at the juncture. Spencer said it clearly needs to be marked. Jessica talked about how rocky the left path was at the very end and how they go to the right instead because it's quicker and sandier.

-Board members by consensus agreed that signage should go up indicating the direction towards the town beach. Adam said if it continues to be a problem the Trust would have to put up no trespassing signs as well on their land. Jessica said they will do that.

-Jessica said the Trust would be willing to donate the land to the town in exchange for two parking spaces. She said there could be an expansion of the existing lot as long as they could have two spaces. Spencer said he'd be interested in pursuing that option with Town Counsel and will have a conversation with Ron (Rappaport) about it.

-Adam had nothing to report. Beverly wants a letter sent out to all the Cliff Lease Holders to be able to meet with them the second Selectmen's meeting in September (18<sup>th</sup>), and go over issues that can be resolved prior to next year.

-Beverly made a motion to adjourn. Spencer seconded.

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

The meeting ended at 5:30 pm.