

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 4/02/2013
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

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

Also present: Town Administrator Adam Wilson, Police Chief Randhi Belain, Vern Welch, Jim Sanfilippo, Wendy Swolinzky, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, Harbormaster Brian Vanderhoop, Shellfish Chairman Buddy Vanderhoop, Carla Cuch, Sgt Paul Manning, Highway Superintendent Jay Smalley, Len Butler, Berta Welch.

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm.

-1st on the agenda was a review of minutes from the 3-19 Selectmen's meeting.

-Jim made a motion to accept the minutes from March 19th. Spencer seconded.

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

Next under Old Business was a review of the home tracker program agreement sponsored by Island Housing Trust. There was discussion about change in the language to accommodate termination by both parties. The clause that allows ownership of the accrued membership was looked at as well. Adam said the cost to initiate the program was already approved at a prior town meeting.

Jim made a motion to approve IHT's Home Tracker Program contract for Aquinnah. Beverly seconded.

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

-The Selectmen took up next under New Business a letter sent to them by Brian Vanderhoop asking that there be consideration made to reconfigure the Menemsha lease lot he had recently been awarded. The lot, Lot "B", had been reduced in size to accommodate the 60' of floating dock Wendy was moving to Lot "A". He asked that the two lots combined had 96' of water frontage. He needed more than 35' and asked that it be split down the middle – 48' for each lot. Wendy spoke of her business needing the space to accommodate all the boats she rents. Not only did she need the 35' space in front of the shed on Lot "A" she had been using the last seven years but an extension to 60' to have enough room for the two floating docks she uses for her "Book-a-Boat" business.

-Wendy handed out a color version of the site plan drawn up back in '92. There was discussion about legal ownership of the shed and Wendy's purchasing of it. She said having less than 60' to work with would reduce her operation.

-Spencer asked if there can be a reduction in Hugh Taylor's lot ("E") of 20' and to move everyone down. The site plan showed Hugh having 75' but with the sale of the Catamaran "Arrabella", he may not need the space. Wendy gave a history of how Hugh got the area sketched out to get his dock permits from the Army Corps of Engineers.

-Brian said he thought it was decided that the town would take ownership of the shed and make it the Harbormaster's office. Spencer said it was a great idea but with the owner not wanting to sell or donate the shed to the town, it wasn't going to work.

-Spencer said all the lease lot's frontage on the Menemsha Creek needs to be looked at. There was discussion about the lot lines needing to be resurveyed and to have an official certified site plan that would then be deed registered.

The Board, by consensus, took Brian's request under advisement until April 16th. Adam was instructed to contact all the lease lot holders and have them attend the meeting.

-Next on the agenda was a review of Jimmy Sanfilippo's aquaculture license renewal. Jimmy reported he had miscalculated that the renewal wasn't until next year.

By consensus, the Board tabled the request for a yet to be determined future date.

-Next on the agenda was a review of Aquinnah Circle improvements update:

1. Beverly said all the signs by the road leading up to the cliff shop area have been removed. The one sign designating hours of delivery has been ordered;

2. Spencer said if Jay has a helper this summer, it should take care of the need for additional trash pick-ups. Carla said the placement of the trash cans is the big issue as the restaurants are responsible for their own trash. The Board made a request to have at least one recyclable can and how much more can be recyclable.

Jim made a motion to have recycle receptacles be placed at various circle areas. Beverly seconded.

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

It was decided that the receptacles would go by the picnic table, at the bottom of the stairs and in the pay parking lot;

3. Picnic tables. Adam reported that the Town should acquire 4 more. Two are replacements for the playground area at Town Hall and across the street from the cliffs. The others would also be placed in the circle area. He said he's seeking three quotes. So far Hinkley's Lumber quoted \$275 each. Simon said the high school could also build them for the town;

4. Bathroom pathway. Spencer reported that he had not yet made an inquiry into the turf stone product Mike Hebert had endorsed for the project. There was discussion about this being a big project not only involving the product, materials and the labor but also having a landscape architect/engineer to make sure the project succeeds;

5. Additional info signage. Both Beverly and Jim said they still need to talk to Carolyn about how to change the signage for the restrooms and the pay parking lot. Beverly added that since Carolyn was on vacation she could not work with her in regards to new bathroom signage and "you are here sign," She will work with her when she returns from vacation.

6. Additional parking. Adam reported that there are 30 spaces + 2 handicap, taxi and moped/bicycle stands. Any additional parking would need a site plan review from the Planning Board. The Planning Board could also refer the parking plan to the MVC because the increase may qualify as a Development of Regional Impact (DRI)

The Selectmen, by consensus, wants any additional parking plan to go to the Planning Board.

-On another circle issue, Simon said the hydrant at the circle needs to be repaired. Randhi also said there is a plan for better signage where one can park.

-In Selectmen's Other Business, Randhi brought up the subject of requests for town issued road/street signs for private roads. He said he has a request for a town road sign to be put up on Sea Mist Ln off Moshup's Trail. There was discussion about the official designation of a road that has at least 3 houses on it. There was discussion about having uniform signs and the cost (\$160 each).

The Board, by consensus, agreed to budget \$2,000 to pay for future signage and for Adam to create a policy for residential request for signage and either road association or minimum 3 person approval of a town authorized road/street sign.

-Lenny Brought to the Board the situation that's arisen with the Coast Guard's Plan to replace the rotating light with a flashing LED. He said it could happen in a matter of weeks. He said there are many who upset with the idea that the light will no longer be a gentle sweep and just a flashing light. Len read the list of concerns and questions to be asked: Rotating light vs flashing beacon; LED vs incandescent; Is this for cost savings or to improve navigation? Is this happening to other lighthouses as well? Are others with a similar light also having light changes. His other concern with the change is if it will affect fundraising? Len asked if the Selectmen would write a letter to request a meeting before the change is made.

-The Board, by consensus, agreed that a letter from them will go to the Coast Guard asking for a meeting.

Simon reported that his department now has an air tank fill station for the newly acquired scott packs as a result from gifts from the Edgartown and West Tisbury FD's. The equipment's value new is \$15K. The department has also spent \$2K on the project as well. Simon also reported that Aquinnah is also up to date on all state reporting for calls dating back to January 2012.

-Jim asked about the oyster bags that are stored behind Town Hall. He said he was aware that Edgartown was starting a new oyster propagation project. Adam said Jim should contact Paul Bagnall (Edg Shellfish Constable) to see if anyone in Edgartown wants the oyster bags.

-Spencer read two letters; one from Mal Jones to help with the lighthouse Committee and a letter from the State Fisheries Department that an extension of the commercial scallop season is approved until April 30th.

-Spencer asked if there was any other business. Hearing none...

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

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

The meeting ended at 7:30 pm.