

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 7/2/2013
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Beverly Wright, Chairman, Jim Newman

Also present: Adam Wilson, Town Administrator, Police Chief Randhi Belain, Officer Jason Olson, BMCS-USCG Menemsha Station, Chamber of Commerce Director Nancy Gardella, MVC Economic Developer Christine Flynn, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, Assistant Assessor Angela Cywinski, Assessor Ted Cammann, Vernon Welch

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

-Under Old Business was a review of the minutes from 6-18.

-Adam and Beverly discussed 3 actions from the 6-18 meeting that hadn't happened yet:

1. An additional trash barrel to be placed up at the Cliff Shops;
2. The placement of one or two cigarette butt canisters the shop owners had requested;
3. A letter to the Tribe asking that their restaurant leaseholder's put their trash barrels in more visible use areas.

Jim made a motion to accept the minutes from June 18th. Beverly seconded.

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

Beverly and Jim took up the minutes from 6-26. Beverly wanted to add the statement Wendy (Swolinzky) made that she was ready to have a crane remove the shed off the lot Thursday if she had to.

By consensus the Board tabled accepting the minutes from 6-26 until Adam presented the amended version.

-The 1st item under New Business was the electronics weapons policy proposed by the police department. Randhi asked that it be withdrawn for the time being because there is work still to be done on it and there's development of a state wide policy which will be different than the one proposed.

-Next on the agenda was a Memorandum of Understanding proposed by the Coast Guard for police assistance with the Aquinnah 5 - 0. Jason Olson from the Coast Guard explained that the MOU was being applied for all stations with neighboring police departments to ensure safety factors during times of emergency. Randhi said he had read the memorandum and had no problem with it.

Jim made a motion to accept the MOU from the Coast Guard. Beverly seconded.

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

Beverly signed the document. Adam made a copy of it and gave the original to Officer Olson.

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with Nancy Gardella and Christine Flynn to promote a fall tourist program for the Vineyard. Nancy said it will be an ongoing program taking place in the fall and that it will be arts and cultural programs for the shoulder season and throughout the year. "Fall For the Arts" has a web site that will promote the events scheduled to occur and the hope is that all the businesses on the island will participate.

-There was discussion about the Chamber's "Island Book" having Comcast telephone numbers in it this year.

Next on the agenda was the vote by the Selectmen to appoint a new Director of Public Works. Adam stated that he and members of the personnel committee had interviewed Jay Smalley, the only candidate who applied for the position and had voted unanimously in favor to recommend him for the job to the Selectmen. Jim stated he had sat in on the interview and was impressed with Jay's vision of how he would handle the job.

Jim made a motion to appoint Jay Smalley to the position of Director of Public Works. Beverly seconded.

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

Next on the agenda was a request from the Gay Head Lighthouse Advisory Committee to have its name changed to the "Save the Gay Head Lighthouse Committee". There was discussion on the creation of the committee's original name. Board members talked about this committee still needing to bring recommendations to them for final approval.

The Board, by consensus, agreed to the committee's name change.

Next on the agenda was a request from Jim Pickman to serve on the full lighthouse and building subcommittee. Jim made a motion to appoint Jim to both committees. Beverly seconded.

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

-Also under new business was a request from Beverly that the lighthouse fundraising committee pursue having a fall road race to raise funds for the lighthouse move. No date had been set but the plan was to have a 10K race finishing up at the lighthouse.

Beverly made a motion to allow a road race to occur on Aquinnah streets to raise funds for the lighthouse this coming fall. Jim seconded.

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

In the Town Administrator's report, Adam said a new defibrillator machine had been installed in town hall.

-Jim also reported that progress was being made in getting the loan agreement approved between Tri-Town and the Tribe for the LUCAS CPR Machines.

-Adam reported that Jay had finished interviewing those who applied for the summer help position and had hired Frank Perez for the job.

-Adam reported that the Town has been notified by FEMA that the \$24K reimbursement for the Lobsterville Road repair from Hurricane Sandy had been approved and the check should be forthcoming any day. The Town is getting a 75% reimbursement fee for the total cost to repair the road.

-The Board took up the request from the Tax Collector to have 4 vacation days carry over into the new fiscal year. Adam explained that Nonie (Madison) couldn't take time off in June because of her son breaking his arm and needed the carry over.

Jim made a motion to allow the 4 vacation day carry over for Wenonah Madison. Beverly seconded.

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

In Selectmen's other business, Jim asked that correspondence be sent to the accountant (Margie Spitz) stating the date she will have the free cash report done this fall. Jim said it should coincide with the mandatory date in the accountant's job description. Beverly also wanted confirmation that reconciliations were occurring each month. Adam stated that Judie (Jardin, AQ Treasurer), reported to him that the town took in just slightly less than 2 million dollars more in revenue than the previous fiscal year.

-The Board took up the request from Richard Skidmore to be reappointed to the MVTV board.

Jim made a motion to reappoint Richard Skidmore to the island's community television station board as the Aquinnah representative. Beverly seconded.

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

-The Board took up the request to have Adam reappointed to the MVC Housing Needs Assessment Study Group. He explained how he had started with the group as the AQ's housing rep proxy over a year ago and ended up chairing the committee. He said the new housing assessment is completed but there has been a call for study group members to stay on and help in the implementation of the study's recommendations. Jim said it was time for the town's affordable housing committee to send a representative; that Adam's time was too valuable working as Town Administrator. Beverly concurred. There was no motion made for the reappointment.

In Other Business was a report from the Assessors on the request from Chilmark to uphold a mutual agreement between the towns on taxing two properties that straddle the boundary between the two towns. Ted Cammann said the Board of Assessors met earlier in the day and voted to request that the AQ BOA have a meeting with the Chilmark BOA to discuss the matter further.

Beverly recognized Randhi to talk about the current situation with Menemsha lease lot A and the recent action taken by Vern Welch to padlock the shed located on it. He said there was a meeting earlier in the day involving him, Chilmark police Chief Brian Cioffi, and legal counsel for both Vern Welch and Wendy Swolinzky. A decision was made that no enforcement action on trespassing will occur by either town.

-There was discussion about the ownership of the building and who has the right to declare trespassing.

Vern Welch was recognized and said he's writing a letter complaining about shared usage of all the Menemsha lease lots in Aquinnah.

Jim discussed the shared usage issue and how the attempt was made to amend the language to allow it.

Beverly doesn't want to change the lease language. She said that was the reason why Camille lost her lease.

-Randhi reported that the Aquinnah 4th of July Parade was scheduled to begin at 11 am.

-Beverly asked if there was anything else to report. Hearing none...

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

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

The meeting ended at 6:15 pm.