

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 10/27/2015
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Mtg Room

Members present: Julianne Vanderhoop, Vice-Chairman, Jim Newman.

Also present: Town Administrator Adam Wilson, EM Director Gary Robinson, David Allen, Sam Hart, Sgt Paul Manning, Town Accountant Emily Day, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, Library Trustee Jean Lince, Police Chief Randhi Belain.

The meeting began at 5:30 pm.

-1st on the agenda under Old Business was a review of minutes from the October 6th meeting.

Jim made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Julianne seconded.

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

-1st on the agenda under New Business was a meeting with Gary and Dave to discuss an Assistant Emergency Manager's position. Gary talked about Dave's background in the military and with rescue services as well as his work with Camp Jabberwocky. He has an interest in emergency management as a career. Gary said the position would be un-paid. He said that Dave having the position makes him eligible for various coursework and online programs.

Jim and Juli welcomed the idea but asked Gary to provide a job description since it will be a new position. Adam said he would pass along the JD to the Personnel Committee for review and a recommendation back to the Board.

-Next on the Agenda was a meeting with Emily to talk about prior year warrant articles that are recommended to be closed. There was discussion about how money got spent on warrant article projects and what articles had remainder amounts and which ones never got used. There was discussion about the upcoming audit and if these kinds of non-spending articles would be revealed in that report.

-Emily discussed how DOR is getting through the free cash process with limited manpower. She said the free cash coming back to the town could be as high as \$400K.

-Next on the agenda was the appointment of Faith Vanderhoop to the Library Trustees. Jean put forth the recommendation, saying that the other two trustees had already voted to have Faith finish Noni Smith's term.

Jim made a motion to have Faith Vanderhoop serve on the Library's Trustee Board until end of May, 2018. Julianne seconded.

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

-Next on the Agenda was the recommendation from the Resident Homesite Committee of Nefititi Jette for the administrative assistant's position to the committee. Adam said the position had been advertised, there were two candidates interviewed and the committee was recommending Nefititi.

Jim made a motion to have Nefititi Jette appointed to the Resident Homesite Committee as administrative assistant until June, 2016, Julianne seconded.

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

-Next was a meeting with Sam Hart from the Adult Continuing Education Program. He reported the results of the assessment conducted island wide of continuing education needs on the Vineyard. The report highlights the gaps in continuing education on the island. He talked about the different groups of people who responded to the study to reveal their needs. HE said UMass Medical did the survey. He said preliminary findings showed that more courses should be offered on island, for both certification and continuing education needs. He cited the program already done for island landscapers taking certification courses for pesticide use and excavators getting hoisting licenses. He said the goal is to bring the classes here so they can be cost effective to the island work force. He is also promoting getting people signed up for professional licensure in careers in education.

-Jim asked what the course credit structure is. Sam said it's less than \$1K for a 3 credit course on island. There was discussion about different types of course work, beyond education, that could apply to continuing education. The Board thanked Sam for his report.

-In Other Selectmen's Business, Jim discussed the survey going out for 65+ islanders that he's promoting for the Healthy Aging Task Force. Their survey is to help the island make important decisions based on the senior population doubling in the next 10 years.

-In Other Business, Elise LeBovit talked with the Selectmen about her representation on the Land Bank Advisory Board. She said that at the present time she was off the Advisory Board because the committee she represents, the Community Programs Committee, is not an accepted group under the Parks & Recreation Committee, which is the official committee having a representative to the LBAB. She expressed her desire to continue representing the LBA but needed a change in the LBAB's By-laws to allow the ACPC to be the representative committee and not Parks & Rec.

-The Selectmen looked at the different representative committees to the LBAB. It was noted that the Board of Health did not have a representative; perhaps Elise could go to them and discuss becoming their representative. The Selectmen took under advisement a change in the representation to the LBAB by the ACPC instead of the Parks & Recreation Commission.

-In Other Business, there was discussion about dogs on beaches. The Selectmen agreed the matter should be discussed with Angela Waldron, animal control officer.

-In Other Business, the Selectmen took up the request by the Planning Board that there should be a visioning session for the community to decide the future of the Aquinnah Circle and its surrounding resources. The Selectmen agreed that it should be planned for and to have it in the Old Town Hall and perhaps have a potluck dinner to go with it.

-Adam presented the town warrant for November 3rd for review. He read the executive summaries for each of the 10 articles. There was discussion about Article 10 asking voters to change the Board of Assessors status from elected to appointed. Jim said he actually wanted the question to be non-binding. Adam said even if approved, it would still be a ballot question to be voted on in May. Jim thought it would be better to withdraw the article until the annual town meeting as it would give more residents the chance to participate. By consensus it was agreed that the article will be withdrawn prior to consideration at the Special Town Meeting November 3rd.

-In Other business, the Selectmen agreed to hold a joint meeting with the Chilmark BOS to discuss issues related to the Menemsha pond dredging and the Creek Lots

-In Other Business Simon asked if there was any progress towards the Tribe-Town Public Safety Agreement. Jim said until the judge's decision on the Tribe's gaming rights comes down, it was still on hold. Simon asked about the current status of the Building Inspector's position. Adam said that currently Lenny Jason is handling the duties as the alternate BI.

-Last on the agenda was an executive session to discuss Adam's contract renewal. Adam made a request to postpone the session until such a time when Spencer was available. The Selectmen agreed.

-Juli asked if there was anything else to come before the Board. Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.
The Board voted 2 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.

-The meeting ended at 6:42 pm.