

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of Meeting 5/17/2016  
Aquinnah Old Town Hall

Members present: Chairman Julianne Vanderhoop, Jim Newman, Gary Haley

Also present: Town Administrator Adam Wilson, Vern Welch, Cemetery Commissioner Steven Roth, Gazette Reporter Alex Elvin, Sgt Paul Manning, Frank Perez, DPW Director Jay Smalley, Buddy Vanderhoop, Kathy Newman.

The meeting began at 5:35 pm.

-1<sup>st</sup> on the agenda under New Business was the vote for Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

Jim made a motion to elect Julianne Vanderhoop for the BOS chairperson for 2016 – 2017. Gary seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1 in favor, the motion passed.**

Gary made a motion to elect Jim Vice Chairman for the BOS for 2016 – 2017. Julianne seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1 in favor, the motion passed.**

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with Steven Roth to discuss maintenance issues and the stone pillar entrance and a proposal to have it rebuilt since it was damaged by a vehicle backing into it. Juli said that as a marker it is important for people to be more careful as they drive in. She said the marker's removal has left a track that goes over some of the graves close to where it was.

There was discussion about the change to the cemetery's entrance and how it affects driving in there.

Jay did a marker board drawing of how the graves are lined up and how the backing in of a hearse now drives over certain graves.

Juli asked that there be a clear understanding of where the graves are and to have them flagged so that they are not driven over. The Board talked about replacing the marker again. Jay said he still has the entrance marker's stones.

-Jay talked about items left on graves. He said the DPW doesn't move anything. There was discussion about the age of the stone pillar. Buddy reported that a recent grave site was dug by someone other than Aquinnah's grave digger (his brother Chip). Steven said he'd to talk to Eleanor (Hebert, Cemetery Chairman), about the digging duty change. There was discussion about whether or not Sandy Fisher hit the stone pillar entrance marker with his back hoe. Steven said he'd let Adam know the follow up meeting he will have with the commission.

-Steven asked about a shed on the cemetery property that needs to be replaced. It has no historical value. Can the Cemetery Commission ask Jay to remove it? Jay said if that's what the Commission wants, he'll do it.

-Steven applauded the work Jay & Frank have done in clearing and discovering new graves. Graves beyond the stone wall markers have also been found. There was agreement the pillar should be restored.

-Next on the agenda was the date for the Save the Lighthouse party. It was agreed that the 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the Old Town Hall would be the time and place to have the pot luck dinner event.

-Next on the agenda was the debt authorization letter from the up-island school district. Juli read the letter from Amy Tierney. There was discussion about the debt already being budgeted in the school district assessment.

Jim made a motion to allow the borrowing to go forward. Gary seconded.

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

-Next on the agenda was the contract to do the classification & compensation study by the Collins Center at UMass. Kathy talked about the cost of the evaluation being within budget and when it would take place. The Collins Center rep, Mary Aicardi, will be on site beginning Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. She is also doing the same study for Edgartown. Jim Jim made a motion to accept the contract from the Collins Center for \$7,500 + travel costs to do a new classification & compensation study. Gary seconded.

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

Juli signed the contract.

-There was discussion about a member of the Board sitting in on Personnel Committee board meetings. Kathy said it's important to have a point person who can see the goings on of personnel administration in the town.

The Board, by consensus, agreed that Gary will be the point person.

Next on the agenda was the request from the US Coast Guard to grant a permanent easement for a water line running through Aquinnah town property to the Menemsha Boat House.

The issue was taken under advisement until Adam can contact USCG for more info.

-In Other Selectmen's Business, Vern came to the board asking if he can also rent boats similar to what Wendy does. Jim asked if this is a change from the original intent of Vern's lease agreement of propagating shell fish. Vern said he's considering it in addition to what he is doing already.

The Board, by consensus, took the request under advisement.

-In Other Business, Jay had a contract for tree trimming services on town roads.

Jim made a motion to accept the contract for tree trimming services. Gary seconded.

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

Juli signed the contract.

In Other Business, Buddy talked about the speed bumps on Church Street. There was discussion about the bumps being too high. Jay said that White Lynch Bros (The installers), knows what it's doing as far as the height of the bumps.

-Juli said that not everyone on Church Street was informed about the bumps. There was discussion about having the bumps reduced to the same size as those on Old South Rd. The Board, by consensus, agreed to have Jay contact White Lynch to reduce the bumps to 3.5 to 4".

Adam to write a letter from the Board telling Jay to reduce the size of the bumps.

In Other Business, Juli read an e-mail from Elise Lebovit about proposed activities at the Lighthouse day event. Jim said that the suggestions should come from the entire Gay Head Lighthouse Advisory Board and not from just one of its members.

The Board, by consensus, referred the proposed activities back to the GHLAB.

-In Other Business, Buddy asked that the spiels to the dock attached to the shed on Vern's Lot not be worked on. Board Members told him that they had already submitted the proposal requested by Vern to town counsel about the matter and was told not to allow any work done to the property until the legal matter of ownership was settled.

-In Other Business, Paul asked if there has been any follow up to the BOS May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting with cliff shop owners in terms of beautification at the cliffs. The Board said they'd like Derrill (Bazzy, CPC Chair and member of the Cultural Arts Place Designation Committee) to be included in the discussion.

-In other business, there was discussion about the ongoing dredge project, the demobilization situation and the damages caused by the dredge that need to be fixed. Adam reported that the dredge operator has had his contract terminated by the Army Corp and that the Surety bond company will be coming in to pay restitution for the damages that have occurred.

-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 3 – 0 in favor. The motion passed.**

The meeting ended at 7:00 pm