

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen  
Minutes of Meeting 7/05/2016  
Aquinnah Selectmen's Meeting Room

Members present: Chairman Julianne Vanderhoop, Jim Newman, Gary Haley  
Also present: Town Administrator Adam Wilson, Town Counsel Ron Rappaport, Resident Homesite Chairman Mike Hebert and CPC Chairman Derrill Bazy, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, Tri-Town Ambulance Chief Ben Retmeir, Police Chief Randhi Belain, DPW Chairman Jay Smalley, Sgt Paul Manning, Cemetery Chairwoman Eleanor Hebert, Cemetery Commissioners Steven Roth and Ryan Malonson, Beverly Wright, Assessor/Appraiser Angela Cywinski, Terry Donahue, Rebekah Thompson, Nonie Taylor, George & Chris Kalish.

The meeting began at 5:04 pm.

-1<sup>st</sup> on the agenda was a meeting with Town Counsel held in executive session to discuss pending litigation. Jim made a motion to go into executive session with town counsel to discuss matters relative to pending/ongoing litigation and to return to the public meeting when finished. Juli seconded.

**The roll call vote was Jim (aye), Juli (aye) and Gary (aye). The vote was unanimous in favor.**

-Returning to the public meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> on the agenda was review of the minutes from 6/7 and 6/21. Jim made a motion to accept the minutes from June 7<sup>th</sup>, Juli seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1(Gary) in favor. The motion passed.**

Gary made a motion to accept the minutes from June 21<sup>st</sup>. Juli seconded.

**The Board voted 2 – 0 – 1(Jim) in favor. The motion passed.**

-Next in Old Business was further review of the repairs to the cemetery wall and stone pillar entrance. Eleanor said there are no graves behind the pillar. She said the problem is that there is no turn around area in the old cemetery entrance. Juli talked about the new entrance could have the arrowwood brushed back for easier access. Eleanor said that the commission voted to hold off on the repair because the problem is that the stone pillar will get hit again. She said there is a hook on the other pillar that prevents traffic from going over graves and markers. Beverly asked if the pillar can be moved to allow better access so it is back in place. Jay said that could happen but other stones there would have to be moved.

Juli, Jay and Eleanor agreed to do a site visit to see what can be done.

-In New Business Simon talked about the June boat fire and the beaching of the hull on Lobsterville beach. He said the town really needs a boat and that one is available for free from Mass DCR. It would still need engines and electronics but it would satisfy the need for having fire/rescue capable equipment for the Aquinnah community. Simon said there is a lot of responsibility the town has in case there is a boat fire that can't be covered without a boat. There was discussion on what the USCG is responsible for in terms of firefighting, safety and personnel. Simon talked about the cost of the engines. He said he needs a yes for the boat just to acquire it. If the boat doesn't work out, it can be returned. Simon also asked that the Selectmen organize a meeting with Chilmark officials to review the boat fire incident. Adam said he'd start the correspondence to arrange a meeting.

Gary made a motion for Simon to go ahead and acquire the surplus boat from Mass Dept of Conservation and Recreation. Jim seconded.

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

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with Randhi and Angela to approve recommended street address changes for municipal buildings and property on State Rd. and the Aquinnah Circle by Angela, the E-911 town coordinator. Angela said this situation has come about more to do with various services (ComCast/Eversource) requesting official street addresses. She said there is a mandate from the state to eliminate duplicate addresses (Chilmark and

Aquinnah State Rd), and to increase street addresses matching lots fronting the town roads. She said addresses will start at 300 on State Rd in Aquinnah, since the last street numbers are 290 in Chilmark. She added #'s for every 30' of frontage. As a result, Town Hall will be 955 State Rd instead of 65.

-Beverly asked why there was no notification of the number change. She complained that the numbers for her and her neighbor's houses have gone from even to odd. Jim asked why 30' feet was the standard. There was discussion about property having frontage of 200'. Randhi said she stuck to a system that has to be uniform. There was discussion about when the process was started.

-Juli said it was very disruptive that this has happened. George & Chris Kalish said it would be better to tell Eversource to change its ways. Angela said the town has to conform to the state's address reporting mandates. Simon and Ben talked about the history of houses in Aquinnah being given addresses without taking in account future development. Simon said the problem is old local decision making versus state 911 requirements. Chilmark had the same problem. Angela stated that this has been a Planning Board problem for two years and they have not done anything about it. Jim expressed his frustration that Angela and Randhi did not keep either Adam or the Selectmen in the loop about the problem as it was learned, never saw the letter that was sent out to residents affected by the change and was unaware that the post office was notified of address changes without his, Juli or Gary's knowledge and/or approval. Randhi said that the renumbering is a problem for all EM Services to deal with.

-Jay asked for the street listing with the # changes. Angela said the list isn't available because Carolyn, the Town Clerk, is delinquent in getting the requested official street list done yet. Neighbors asked if the software program used to do the renumbering can be changed to accommodate variation on number changes to make them alphanumeric. He said he would research that idea.

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with the grass fields group. Susan Bologna asked that the BOS make a discretionary referral to the MVC for the artificial playing fields at the high school. She said that this is along the same path as the plastic bag issue. She went through the environmental concerns and increased parking and traffic. She also talked about the endangered moth. Jim asked about the different concerns specifically called for in a discretionary referral. Adam talked about a referral probably coming from the Planning Board in OB.

-Terry Donahue spoke about the current condition of the fields and their play status. He said he was approached by a philanthropist who asked how much to make all the fields better. Through a series of investigations, they determined that artificial fields would carry the load more effectively. A lot of studies were looked at from around the country and the world. There was a meeting with the school board and they voted 5 – 2 in favor of those present. 2 others mailed in their votes affirming the project. He said there have been changes to the materials to address the concerns of artificial substances.

He discussed the 3 stages of the project. 1<sup>st</sup> is the track, 2<sup>nd</sup> is training fields and third is the stadium fields and a central building to oversee. He talked about the "silica" (Sand) that would be used.

Terry read 3 different reports that said that tire rubber will not be used because it is shown to be possibly toxic. He said this has not been an issue. Rebekah Thompson talked about the Chilmark meeting she attended.

She said that the 1<sup>st</sup> phase may not need oversight from the MVC because it is landscaping. There was discussion about the whole school campus becoming a DRI. She talked about other playing facilities costing \$\$ for their life cycle removal. She quoted from Barnstable's playing field numbers. There was discussion about artificial turf not being regulated as a children's product, it is an adult product and has different standards. She said that Chilmark has made the referral. Terry said they know they will have to go to the MVC eventually and he feels that that the OB Planning Board or the Building Inspector will make the referral.

-Juli said there are arguments on both sides but the issue of referral is not for the Board to determine. She doesn't think that she can really refer the plan because it's not part of the community. Let Oak Bluffs weigh in 1<sup>st</sup> and then Aquinnah can comment. Nonie Smith asked for the need to have Aquinnah make the referral. Rebekah said Tisbury might make a referral if no permit was filed. Oak Bluffs BOS has not taken any action. Rebekah said the students are paying attention to what would happen to the 41 acre sports complex.

-The Board took the question of a discretionary referral under advisement until more info could be given. Nonie asked if the two boards can communicate their concerns. Terry said the project is being privately funded and won't come from taxes. CPC funds have already been set aside for the track repair/replacement.

-In Other Business, Simon asked to appoint Officer Dave Murphy as the Municipal Hearings officer.  
Jim made a motion to appoint Officer Dave Murphy to the position of Municipal Hearings Officer, Gary seconded.

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

-Simon also asked if he could go forward to acquire a used rescue boat from the Department of Conservation & Recreation that was on the state's disposal list. He said after the recent boat fire the town should look into having their own boat for rescue and other purposes. He said the boat is free and he would work towards grants and donations towards engines and electrical equipment.

The Board, by consensus, approved the acquisition of the rescue boat from the DCR.

-In Other Business, the Board agreed to have the summer resident's meeting August 9<sup>th</sup>

-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 7:28 pm