

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 8/2/2016
Aquinnah Town Hall

Members present: Chairman Julianne Vanderhoop, Gary Haley

Also present: Town Administrator Adam Wilson, Jim Pickman, Mitzi Pratt, Vineyard Power President Richard Andre, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, DPW Director Jay Smalley

The meeting began at 5:34 pm.

-1st on the agenda was review of the minutes from the 7/26 Selectmen's meeting

Juli made a motion to accept the minutes from July 26th, Gary seconded.

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

-Next on the agenda under New Business was a meeting with Jim and Mitzi and the ongoing work for a grant from ArtPlace America that uses the arts for community development and redevelopment. Aquinnah is among 80 finalists from 1,400 organizations who applied. They said \$500K is being requested for economic development and design for the revitalization of the Aquinnah Circle utilizing The Conway School's plan and project development report. The application requests funds to hire the people that can bring the total experience at the circle to fruition. Many different components are to be looked at. There was discussion about public seating. \$100K has been proposed for continued development of infrastructure. Mitzi said the grant writer Gisele Gauthier has been great in developing the proposal.

Jim said that the Town and the Tribe working together has been a bonus for the application. There was discussion about the arts designation for the circle and how ArtPlace America will stop doing this application by 2020.

-Next on the agenda under New Business was a meeting with Richard Andre from the Vineyard Power Cooperative (VPC). He gave a report of the past accomplishments for his company on the Vineyard. There was discussion about the Federal process started for offshore wind development in 2009. There is a task force on MV and Megan Sargent is the AQ rep to the task force. Richard said his company is moving away from solar and into renewable wind energy. Richard talked about the move away from the 3 mile off shore limit to 12 nautical miles. Richard's diagram showed where the offshore wind sites are located several miles south of Noman's. The various parts of the chart were shown being leased to different parties. There are currently 3 lease holders. There was discussion about state legislation having passed bills requiring E-Source and National Grid to purchase more renewable energy. 1,600 megawatts must be purchased by 2026 to provide 30% of Mass energy needs. Ocean surveys will begin in the fall. He said all the tribes in Massachusetts will be notified, including the Narragansett and Mashpee. There was discussion about outreach also to the fishery associations. Geophysical surveys will be 1st. a boat will criss-cross to determine ocean depth to form a grid to figure the contour of the bottom. He said geotechnical borings will follow. Marine archeologist and Tribal members can witness the borings and see if there are any paleo soils for ancient features. Richard said there will be 75 – 100 turbines in the initial phase. 10 year process to build out for the megawatts needed. Richard said Offshore MW and VPC looking for building a maintenance facility here on MV. Richard said VPC is trying to capture as many jobs as possible.

There was discussion about their visibility and how they will be lit up. Competition was talked about. Richard said there is an awareness of marine life and prevention of loss. One year from now Eversource and National Grid will put out a bid notice with the 1st wind farm becoming operational by 2020.

-Next on the Agenda was a request from Mickie and Dale Clement to set up a portable 10 GHz Amateur Radio station at the Aquinnah Circle overlook area September 17 & 18.

Juli made a motion to approve the request. Gary seconded.

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

-Next on the agenda was a letter to State Reps on the loss of Mass funding for shellfish propagation.

By consensus, the Board agreed to the letter Adam drafted to go to MV's State House representatives for shellfish funding.

-Next on the Agenda was the DAS Network update – AT & T and Verizon coverage in Aquinnah and Chilmark.- AT & T's lack of node usage was discussed. Simon said he couldn't get proper response on "I Am Responding" for a call last week. Adam showed a chart of which nodes were subscribed to in Aquinnah and which were not.

-In Other Business, a thank you letter to Laurel Wilkenson, the Landscape Architect who donated hours towards GH Lighthouse relocation project was reviewed and approved.

Juli signed the letter.

In Other Business, Jay sought approval for a contract to 1st Light Tree Company to do landscaping cemetery work.

Juli made a motion to approve the contract. Gary seconded.

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

-There was discussion about upgrades to the eating area at the circle. 4 picnic tables to arrive soon. Jay reported sand to be cleared off Lobsterville Road tomorrow (August 3rd), and lines to be repainted after the road is swept.

-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 6:30 pm