

Aquinnah Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting 5/16/2017
Aquinnah Town Hall Selectmen's Meeting Room

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

Also present: Town Administrator Adam Wilson, Fire Chief Simon Bollin, Police Chief Randhi Belain.

Times Reporter Rich Salzberg, Sgt Paul Manning, DPW Director Jay Smalley, PC Chairman Kathy Newman

The meeting began at 5:30 pm.

1st on the agenda under Old Business was a review of minutes from 5/1.

Jim made a motion to accept the minutes from May 1st as amended (Jim's concern about the over ride not being tied into education). Gary seconded.

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

-1st on the agenda for New Business was the Chairman and Vice Chairman appointments.

-Juli made a motion to appoint Jim Newman as Chairman for 2017 – 18. Gary seconded.

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

-Jim made a motion to appoint Gary as Vice Chairman for 2017 – 18. Juli seconded.

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

-Jim congratulated Adam on his victory and talked about the “anonymous” blog.

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with the Cliff Lot Lease holders whose leases were up for renewal.

Adam explained that the renewal is for another five years. Berta asked if the leases can pass along the lease to family members. Adam said he'd check the language from the Menemsha leases and see if it can be applied.

-There was discussion about the need to adjust the basic rent. It has not increased in several years. The Board agreed to meet again with all lease holders at the next meeting to discuss rents.

Juli made a motion made to renew the leases for another five years. Gary seconded.

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

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with Ken & Liz Witham and #9 Aquinnah Circle usage. Liz talked about the report they gave last fall. They asked if they can use the space again. She said they are just about finished with the documentary. She said mid-June they could be up and running

-Adam asked about insurance and admission costs. She said there will be no admission. Adam said he'd notify MV Insurance to change the policy since the buildings will no longer be vacant. Adam notified Ken and Liz that they would have to show a liability policy for the exhibit as well.

Juli made a motion for Film-Truth Productions to promote their documentary at #9 Aquinnah Circle through the summer season. Gary seconded.

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

-Liz gave an update on the web site having the need for core updates. She also complained about the fact that she didn't get a 2.5% increase in her budget request for web master work.

-Next on the agenda was a meeting with Fire Chief Simon Bollin to review the proposed 3 year contract.

Juli motioned to accept the contract as presented. Gary seconded.

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

Jim and Simon signed the contract.

-Simon reported that the new truck is on display in Canada. There was discussion about the old truck and how it will be converted to a plow and sander. Jay doesn't know where the truck will be garaged or where the sand will be stored.

-Next on the agenda was a discussion on Lighthouse Day (30th)

Jim suggested a pot luck. The 30th is a Tuesday at the Old Town Hall @ 6:00 pm. Adam said he would look into having the lighthouse documentary shown at the event.

-Next on the agenda was a review of the Patrolman's collective bargaining agreement.
The Board, by consensus, took the agreement under advisement until the next meeting.

-Next on the agenda was further review of the Parks & Recreation appointments
The Board reviewed the people who expressed interest back in September. Rachel McMullen moved off island
The Board, by consensus, took the agreement under advisement until the next meeting.

-Next on the agenda was a review of the petition asking the handover of County Roads to the municipality.
Some of the roads were discussed having different names and getting them into the municipality for chapter 90 reimbursement funding.

Juli made a motion to accept the petition as presented. Gary seconded.

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

The Selectmen signed the petition

-In Other Business, Randhi presented a list of officers and patrolmen to be with the department.

Jim read the officers to be appointed for the 2017 – 18 year.

Jim made a motion to approve the slate of officers as presented. Gary seconded.

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

-In Other Business, Paul brought up a suggested picnic area seating plan for the cliff shops this summer. He showed a plan asking that an area be leveled and to use crushed shell to have a place for sitting and eating.

-Paul also talked about the lookout area needs an upgrade as well. The Conway School plan was talked about. Jay talked about improvements that need funds but haven't been budgeted. Juli talked about people donating bricks to upgrade the lookout area. Jay talked about the reductions in his budget to help reduce the override. Gary said the walkway to the lighthouse may be paid for by the lighthouse gift fund. Jay asked what improvements do the Selectmen want for the circle this year. Juli said there should be a list of projects that either the town can do now through the DPW budget and the projects that can be funded from free cash articles at the next town meeting.

Paul said that the town needs to stay on top of his request because the crowds are coming and the demand is going to push the business owners for the town to provide adequate seating. Juli said there won't be any money from CPC funds until the fall. The brick idea was talked about some more going with the P & R committee.

-In Other Business, Kathy Newman from the Personnel Committee came to the Board to ask for an appointed committee to do the Town Administrator search. She asked about starting the process. Can the BOS form a committee with a member of the BOS, Finance Committee and the personnel committee. She also said that Adam has said there should be an administrative assistant 18 – 20 hours a week to do across the board committee meetings and front desk work right now for the summer so that the search process can run its course.

-Juli had concerns that the position would end up being benefited. There was discussion about combining several positions and what hours would be needed for the front desk, what is needed for admin work, and what can be done simultaneously. Kathy said Allen Rugg and Mark Foster and Sarah Thulin have expressed interest.

Gary said he'd volunteer to be a part of the ad hoc committee. A meeting was scheduled for 4:00 pm for Kathy, Gary and Mark to talk about the search.

-Jim asked if there was anything else to come before the board before they went in to Executive Session. Hearing none, Gary made a motion under MGL Chapter 39, sec 23A to discuss strategy with respect to ongoing litigation.

Juli seconded.

The roll call vote was Jim (aye), Juli (aye) and Gary (aye). The motion passed.

-The public meeting ended at 7:00 pm.