

Meeting of the
Aquinnah Select Board
August 24, 2021

Minutes

This meeting was held in person

Attending: Julianne Vanderhoop, Gary Haley, Tom Murphy, Capt. Buddy Vanderhoop, Capt. Chip Vanderhoop, Wendy Swolinsky, Jeffrey Madison (Town Administrator).

Selectman Haley called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes Adopted
(Adopted minutes of August 3, 2021)

Lighthouse Tours
(Accepted Medders' suggestion to close on September 6, 2021)
Town Administrator explained the recommendation of Deborah Medders, Lighthouse Coordinator, to stop the Lighthouse tours on September 6, Labor Day. Board accepted the recommendation.

Keeper Update
(No action taken)
Town Administrator informed the Board of notice from Len Butler, Chm. Lighthouse Committee, that the Committee will be interviewing the four applicants as soon as Richard Skidmore is recovered enough to participate in the Zoom meetings. Following the interviews, the Lighthouse Committee will make a recommendation to the Select Board.

Parking Lot
(No formal action taken)
Town Administrator informed the Board that the municipal lot will only be manned on weekends after Labor Day. The Philbin lot will be without an attendant for the rest of the season. Chief Belain has instructed his officers to check the lot frequently and issue parking tickets to cars there illegally. There was a brief discussion of the need to increase fee for parking violations. Board agreed to wait until Chief Belain is in attendance to discuss further.

Projects Committee Update
(No action taken)
Town Administrator informed Board of on-site meeting with Designer and Projects manager this Thursday, August 26.

West Basin Parking
(Discussion deferred pending Chief Belain's attendance)

Menemsha Lease Lots
(Authorized Town Administrator to send out Leases)
Buddy Vanderhoop raised the issue of proposed increase in rent from \$400 to \$1,000.00. He didn't think that to be a fair, or acceptable, increase given that lessees are required to maintain their own docks, water and electric bills. Much discussion followed including Wendy Swolinsky's quote from the deed to the Town from the State, : [Lots] "are reserved for and made available to commercial fishermen" However, she pointed out that the Aquinnah had allowed the

use to morph into those uses permitted in the Town marine commercial district under Town Zoning. Much discussion followed including comments by Julie that there should be a compromise on the rent and that she felt that proposed language relating to limiting debris on the lot to be unnecessary as it may cause a problem if a lessee were to stake lobster traps on their lot. Tom Murphy suggested that as a compromise the rent be charged at \$750 for first year, \$850 for second year, and \$950 for third year of lease. He made a motion to that effect. Gary Haley seconded the motion. The motion was passed 2 in favor, 0 opposed and Julie Vanderhoop abstaining. The Board further agreed that Town Administrator should send out leases.

Appointments

(Appointed Kathie Olsen to UICOA and Jay Theis to Bd of Appeals)

Tom made a motion to appoint Kathie Olsen to Up-Island Council on Aging and Jay Theis to the Board of Appeals. Julie seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor of those appointments.

Old Business

(Voted to enter executive session)

Tom Murphy voted to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing union contract with Police and not to reconvene in open session. Julie seconded the motion and the vote to enter Executive Session was approved unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.