

Meeting of the
Aquinnah Select Board
September 07, 2021

Minutes

This meeting was held in person

Attending: Julianne Vanderhoop, Gary Haley, Tom Murphy, Kyle Colter, Paul Manning, Bill Lake, Megan Gombos, Dan Doyle, Jeffrey Madison (Town Administrator).

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

Minutes Adopted
(Adopted minutes of August 24, 2021)

Climate Committee Report (Accepted Report)

Meghan Gombos of the Aquinnah Climate Committee gave an update on the Municipal Program Vulnerability Grant that is being administered through the Martha's Vineyard Commission. She asked that Aquinnah appoint a member to the Steering Committee that will work through August 2022 to complete a community based Climate Action Plan. The Committee will consist of a representative from each of the member towns a representative from the County, a Tribal Government Liaison and a Brazilian Community Liaison. Over 25 organizations have signed on to engage in the program. Starting in November there will be monthly activities. The Board accepted the report as presented.

Dukes County Hazard Mitigation Plan (Board formally adopted the Plan)

Dan Doyle of the Martha's Vineyard Commission reported on the work being done by the Commission on hazard mitigation. The review has been underway for 2 years following original approval by Vineyard towns. He requested a new approval of the planning effort that will be good for 5 additional years. He mentioned that Aquinnah emergency Manager Forrest Filler and former manager Gary Robinson have participated in the planning effort. Approval of the Plan will provide eligibility for 75% federal funding for structural mitigation projects. Regulatory strategies are a part of the Plan. The Plan will consider flood, wildfire and storm surge (hurricane) vulnerability. Following the presentation Julie made a motion to adopt and reapprove the Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Tom Murphy seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

West Basin/Town Parking Issues (Voted to increase parking fines at specific areas)

(Board voted to form a Parking Committee to consider changes at West Basin)

Chief Belain informed the Board that there were 159 tickets for parking violations issued through September 30. He also provided his opinion that an increase in fines for overtime parking at the Cliffs, Philbin and West Basin would be appropriate. After discussion Board voted to increase parking fines at the Cliffs and West Basin to \$50.00 and \$100.00 at Philbin Beach. The increases were unanimously approved by the Board. Chief Belain also requested to consider limiting parking at their small space to 3 cars by erecting a low split-rail fence that will limit the parking in their area near the Museum. The Board agreed to place a sign in the Philbin lot reserving the handicap wheelchair for handicap use only.

There was a discussion of the parking situation at West Basin that is totally out of control due

primarily to lack of spaces and increased demand. There was discussion of widening the road to accommodate more non-resident parking and trucks with boat trailers. This would allow for elimination of parking along the split-rail fence across from the boat ramp which would allow for easier launching. Tom Murphy suggested a resident committee to study the issue. He made a motion that the Town form a committee to study the parking issues. Julie seconded the motion

There was discussion of a weight limit for trucks using Church Street. Chief Belain said that the Selectmen had the power to implement a weight limit, but enforcement would be an issue. No specific action was taken. Select Board action would be under M.G.L. ch. 85, Sec. 30.

Opioid Litigation Letter
(No action taken)

UIRSD Appointment
(Appointed Jim Newman as Aquinnah representative)

Meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.