

Aquinnah Select Board
Minutes
June 21, 2022

Attending: Gary Haley, Tom Murphy, Julianne Vanderhoop, `Jeffrey Madison (Town Administrator), Kate Taylor, Randhi Belain, Paul Manning, Jay MacLoed

Minutes

(Accepted minutes of June 7 and May 24, 2022)

Tom motioned, and Gary seconded that the minutes of May 24, 2022 be approved as submitted, Motion carried 3 – 0. Gary motioned and Tom seconded a motion to approve the minutes of June 7 as submitted, vote carried 2 yes, 0 no, Julie abstaining due to absence from the meeting.

Projects Committee Issues

(No action taken)

Town Administrator gave a rundown on recent activity of the projects committee. It was pointed out that there had been no meetings since the Annual town Meeting. However, the committee has heard complaints that there are residents who are concerned about a lack of openness, or transparency by the committee. It was pointed out that the committee had been acting as a group of interested citizens, rather than a formal committee. The group having evolved from a group of at least 10 years ago by the then Select Board. That committee hired a architect Kenney & Kenney of Falmouth who provided services that were inconsistent with the committee's direction. At that time the group was called the Campus Planning Committee. When current Town Administrator was hired remaining members of that original committee asked him to reinstate the effort to improve overall conditions at the Town Hall. At the same time the Town Administrator was speaking with the Circle Group whose mission has been to make improvements at Aquinnah Circle. Each group selected members who wanted, or at least were willing, to continue a joint planning effort. Efforts of the volunteers have resulted in appropriation of funds for the preliminary project designs and more recently funds for the schematic design of both a renovated town hall and construction of a new comfort station at Aquinnah Park. The Board was concerned about the purported lack of transparency. Kate Taylor added credence to the rumor that had also been raised by the Town Clerk on her behalf. Kate indicated that she only recently became aware of the planning effort and demanded to know how decisions were made. Town Administrator pointed out that he had just explained the process. The Board asked that since she couldn't accept the TA's explanation she should talk to one of the other committee volunteers. It was agreed that any future meetings would be published and minutes kept according to open meeting law.

Meeting with Board of Health

(Meeting scheduled for July 5, 2022)

Raising Flag at Aquinnah Circle

(No action taken)

Town Administrator requested that police take down and put up the pride flag and the Tribe flag when they do the same to the American flag at Aquinnah Circle. Board decided that neither the

Pride flag nor the Wampanoag flag were had the same respect as the American flag and didn't need to be removed at sunset.

Playground Fence RFP

(Asked that RFP be reviewed by Town Counsel before publication)

Animal Control Officer Appointment

(No action taken)

Other Business

(Accepted report of Cindi Trish from Vineyard Healthy Aging)

(Authorized Town Administrator to sign letter)

Ms. Trish made a presentation to the Board that culminated in a request for the Select Board to endorse, with each of the other Vineyard towns, a letter of support for the Community Plan. Board voted to allow Town Administrator to sign the letter on behalf of Aquinnah.

Meeting was adjourned 6:03 p.m.