

Aquinnah Select Board Meeting  
Minutes  
September 20, 2022 (corrected)

Attending: Gary Haley, Tom Murphy, Julianne Vanderhoop, `Jeffrey Madison (Town Administrator), Jim Newman, Eileen Sullivan, Meghan Gombos, Paul Manning, Bill Lake, Ben Retmier, Kathy Newman, John Brett-Smith

Call to Order at 5:00 p.m. by Julie Vanderhoop, Chairman

Minutes  
(/deferred)

Parking Rules for Philbin Beach  
(No decision)

Board reviewed memo from Rachel Vanderhoop that made recommendations for increased parking fees for the 2023 season. No action was taken as they wanted an opportunity to discuss with local parking committee and compare charges with cost of parking at Chilmark beaches.

Climate Action Committee  
(Accepted Report)

Meghan Gombos presented a report of the Island-wide Climate Action Committee. The Climate Action Plan entitled The Vineyard Way puts forth proposed solutions to plan for climate resilience including renewable energy, preserving salt marshes, pond water quality and enhancing the common good. It presents several goals and objectives to be met by 2040. Tom Murphy thanked everyone involved in putting together a comprehensive report including Kathy Newman and Meghan Gombos.

Assessor Issues  
(Motion to put out RFP for Assessor Services passed)

It was pointed out by the Town Administrator that the contract for Assessor Services needs to be renewed. The current contract with regional Resource Group (RRG) expired on June 30, 2022, RRG is currently in the process of completing the required State-mandated review of all town assessments and will make a presentation to the Select Board after appropriate State agencies of accepted the review probably sometime in October. Gary Haley made a motion to send out an RFP soliciting companies bids for assessment services. Tom seconded the motion that passed 3-0.

Comfort Station Schedule  
(Accepted recommendation to close following Cranberry Day)

Town Administrator and Gary Haley proposed to close the comfort station at the Cliffs on October 16, following Cranberry Day Holiday but to keep the port-potties in place until the end of October. The Board agreed.

West Basin Parking Issues  
(Accepted temporary parking plan)

Town Administrator explained that initial plans to open parking at West Basin were not acceptable as the plan prevented use of the boat ramp. In response it was proposed that parking would be allowed for approximately 30 yards on both sides of West Basin Road from the west end of the existing parking area. This would allow for increased use of the area for anglers fishing the Annual Bass & Bluefish Derby. The plan was cleared by Chief Belain and agreed that any parking abuses would continue to receive \$100 parking tickets.

Board of Health  
(Accepted recommendation of Personnel Committee)

Personnel Committee sent a recommendation that the Select Board hire a Board of Health Agent for 15 hours per week at Grade E, Step 9 which is \$33.61/hour. The recommendation was accepted with little comment.

Other Business

There was a discussion at the request of the Board regarding response time to a possible stroke on the evening of Friday September 19. Reportedly, it took 45 minutes for Tri-Town Ambulance to respond. Ben Retmier reported that the call came in to Communications Center at 22:00 hours and Tri-Town was notified at 22:01, Tri-Town left the ambulance barn in West Tisbury at 22:05 and arrived on the scene at 22:32. Paul Manning confirmed that it always seems like forever when waiting for the ambulance to respond. Both Paul and Ben confirmed that 45 minutes would have been too long a response time, but in this instance response was within acceptable limits. Jim Newman agreed with the assessment.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m.