

Meeting of the
Aquinnah Select Board
December 14, 2021

Minutes

The meeting was held in person in Select Board meeting room

Attending: Gary Haley, Tom Murphy, Juli Vanderhoop Jeffrey Madison (Town Administrator), Paul Manning, Mike Joyce, Theresa Manning, Cindy Trish

Chairman Haley called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Minutes

(Deferred consideration of Minutes of 11-30-2021)

Building Inspector

(Appointed Forrest Filler as Temporary Building Inspector)

Town Administrator informed the Board of efforts to find a fill-in for Len Jason during his unexpected unavailability. Contacts were made with other towns and an interview was held with both Forrest Filler and Ken Barwick, a former inspector in Tisbury. Barwick said he was unable to consider the position at this time. Forrest Filler is available and capable of filling in starting immediately. He is qualified as holder of a Construction Supervisor's License but unable to issue certificates of occupancy as that requires more licensure than he currently has. Juli ultimately made a motion to appoint Forrest to the position. Her motion was seconded by Gary and the vote was unanimous.

M.V. Youth Taskforce

(No action requested)

Theresa Manning and Mike Joyce attended the meeting and gave a report on the Taskforce. The Task Force provides substance Abuse Services to troubled youth on the Vineyard and has received over \$2M in funding over the years. Previously the Task Force used the County as the fiscal agent for the funding but has changed that policy after qualifying as a non-profit and now uses Aquinnah as its lead agency to qualify for funding. Theresa informed the Board that the Task Force seems to have achieved success in changing attitudes of Vineyard teens from thinking that drinking is a "right of passage." As a result they have been able to address whatever abuse may be taking place at any given time; be it vaping, anxiety or drug abuse. She extended thanks to Aquinnah Board for its cooperation in their program.

Healthy Aging Survey Results

(Accepted Report)

Cindy Trish from the Healthy Aging presented results of the Survey of Island-Wide Older Adults (60+) they conducted. Dan Doyle from the MVC participated in compiling data. Some of the data compiled in the report: The report anticipates an increase of 40% in Aquinnah older population by 2035. There were 70 respondents from Aquinnah who answered 68 questions. 1 in 4 older adults in Aquinnah live alone. 1 in 4 older adults in Aquinnah have provided care to a family member in the past 2 years. 13% of Aquinnah respondents have utilized the COA. Aquinnah's older adults see themselves as relatively healthy and valued. The complete report is available by contacting Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard ctrish@hamv.org.

Commercial Scallop Season

(Accepted recommendation of Shellfish Committee)

Shellfish Committee recommended opening the Commercial Scallop Season on Thursday,

December 16, 2021 with a limit of 2 level bushels per person per day provided the Shellfish Constable posts the rules and regulations at the head of the pond and West Basin by that date. All other rules previously adopted regarding commercial scalloping to remain in effect.

Police Patrolmen's Contract

(Voted to sign the Contract as presented by Atty. Collins)

Tom Murphy expressed thanks on behalf of the Board to the patrolmen, Chief Belain and Atty. Collins for cooperation during the negotiations. Paul Manning expressed his thanks to the Board for approval of the contract.

Other Business

(Board sanctioned Christmas Party on the afternoon of Christmas Eve. Tom Murphy expressed thanks to Chris Manning and Isaac Taylor for decorations at the Lighthouse and hoped that we can add more decorations to Aquinnah Circle next year.)

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.