



PO Box 121  
Cotuit, MA02635  
**Minutes**

**Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday February 4, 2014, Cotuit Library, 7:00 PM**

**Attending:** Rich Boden, Phyllis Miller, Bill Maher, Bill Babcock, Chris Gargiulo, Dick Hamilton, Amy Kates, Mike Scanlon, Jessica Rapp Grasseti.

**Absent:** Tom Burgess, Dave Doyle, Chris Olsen, Stacey Schakel.

**Presentation: Jennie Wiley, Librarian of the Cotuit Library**, spoke of the activities of the library this year.

Visits are up 25% in the past two years and libraries are on the edge of the digital and technological revolution. Computer usage has risen by 62% and e-book lending has risen dramatically. The library is gearing toward providing services for digital literacy and accessing information in multiple ways in multiple venues. The new Homebound Program, which delivers books to users unable to get to the library, has been successful. There are many low vision participants. Persons other than the principal user can make referral for the program. In November, the Library will have a NASA scientist visit through a grant. A telescope will be made available at the library coinciding with this visit.

The Gateway II Project is the second phase of the Library's fund raising for physical improvements. This will provide increased a new circulation desk, staff office space, a relocated and improved the kitchen area, a handicap accessible bathroom, storage space and an elevator to insure handicap access to all levels of the building. The new circulation desk is already in place. There is discussion about a lap top lab. Fund need to be raised to accomplish Gateway II and the support of the Civic Association for the Library is necessary.

**Business Meeting**

**Secretary's report:** The minutes of the Executive Board Meeting on 12/3/2013 were approved

**Treasurer's report:** The Treasurer's Monthly Report to 1/31/14 was approved. On a motion made and seconded, the board unanimously approved moving 2/3 of the funds currently held in the checking account including the disbursement of the GNMA Fidelity Account into a Certificate of Deposit at Citizens Bank.

**Precinct 7:** Jessica Rapp Grasseti reported that the satellite police station for our area will open at the junction of Route 28 and the Osterville-West Barnstable Road soon.

**Old Business:**

**1. Christmas in Cotuit:**

- a. The lights on the Christmas tree need to come down. Rich Boden will

contact Dave Doyle. The Board unanimously approved a “reasonable expense” for this, if necessary.

**2. Concerns of Cotuit:** Rich Boden, Phyllis Miller and Councilor Jessica Rapp Grasseti will meet with Town Manager Tom Lynch on Wednesday, 2/19/2014 to review the items on our list prior to scheduling the Spring tour of the village with the Town Manager and other officials of the Town. Principal topics to be discussed on Wednesday are:

- a. **Old Shore Road:** Town Engineer Roger Parson will be invited to come to the March Executive Board Meeting to discuss ways of improving parking and circulation here. This should be prior to the Town Manager’s site visit.
- b. **Loop Beach:** cleanliness and maintenance
- c. **Sampson’s Island/Cotuit Channel:** It was recommended that a letter be written to the Waterways Committee of the Town of Barnstable expressing our concern about the narrowing of the navigable channel at the harbor entrance. Our concerns about the effect on vegetation by boat storage at Ropes Beach should be expressed as well to the appropriate Town committees.

**3. Cotuit Water department:** Chlorination and tank flushing continue. The Cotuit Water Company has hired a new firm to test the water and continues to seek to eradicate any source of contamination to the system.

**4. Lowell Property – “Keep Lowell Park Green”.** The Barnstable Land Trust has commenced its fund-raising to purchase this land for conservation. To that end the BLT will again enter the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade with the float and have requested permission to hand out information leaflets. They will provide post parade clean-up for these. They are exploring offering a post parade activity for attendees. BLT would like to make a presentation of the project at either our July or August Freedom Hall Meeting.

**5. Freedom Hall Monthly Programs:**

**March or May:** Cotuit Fire/Water District Budgets

**April:** Candidates’ Night – Fire District Elections

**July:** Barnstable Land Trust/Lowell Property

**6. Putnam Pathway:** There has been no contact from the Growth management Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Phyllis Miller, Vice President,  
T.K. Burgess, Secretary



PO Box 121  
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**Minutes**

**Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday April 1, 2014, Cotuit Library, 7:00 PM**

**Attending:** Rich Boden, Phyllis Miller, Bill Babcock, Chris Gargiulo, Dick Hamilton, Jessica Rapp Grassetti.

**Absent:** Tom Burgess, Dave Doyle, Chris Olsen, Mike Scanlon, Amy Cates, Bill Maher, Stacy Schakel.

**Guest Presentation: Roger Parsons, Engineer, Town of Barnstable DPW. RE: Old Shore Road Traffic and Safety Issues.** The problem: Old Shore Road is too narrow for two-way traffic, and there is high accident potential at the corner at the boat ramp. In the course of discussion, a provisional consensus was reached on the following points: (1) Old Shore should be made one-way from Putnam Ave. to Main St.; (2) it should be one-way year round and not just seasonally; (3) the two trailer parking places on the left side of the road just above the boat ramp, up toward Main St., should be eliminated and two new trailer parking places should be created further up toward Main St. (above the driveway of 31 Old Shore Rd.); (4) the trees planted on town property on the landward side of the road at the corner by the boat ramp should either be removed or be moved back away from the road; (5) at least one—and perhaps both— of the parallel parking spaces at the end of the wall at Ropes Beach toward the boat ramp should be eliminated; and (6) the angle on the right side of the intersection of Old Shore and Main Street should be eased in order to facilitate right turns with trailers. Designating Old Shore Road as one-way will ultimately require the approval of the Town Manager; the next step, however, is for Mr. Parsons to develop a new plan showing the changes to Old Shore Road as listed in this provisional consensus and to present it to the Civic Association Board for approval.

**Interlude:** It was agreed that the public meeting on “visioning” a pathway running along Putnam Avenue from the existing sidewalk at the east end of Putnam to Main Street (see minutes of meeting of March 4) should be postponed from August 19 to October 21, 2014.

**Business Meeting**

**Secretary’s Report:** The minutes of the Executive Board Meeting on 3/4/2014 were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's monthly report to 3/31/2014 was approved.

**Precinct 7 Report:** Jessica Rapp Grassetti reported: (1) the Conservation Committee this evening will include consideration of a Town DPW proposal to remove the existing beach access ramps at Loop Beach and replace them with a new longer and wider beach access ramp which will both allow enhanced handicapped access to the beach and DPW vehicle access for the removal of accumulated seaweed; (2) we need to request the placement of DPW trash barrels at Loop Beach, Riley's, Ropes Beach, and the Little river road town way to water no later than May 1, 2014; (3) a limited building permit has been issued for 671 Main Street for full rehabilitation of the existing cottage with no tear-down of the attached garage unless and until the 40B goes ahead (as yet, however, there has been no word of the transfer of the 40B to the new developer)—the deadline for the rehab of the existing cottage is June 30, 2014 (if that deadline is not reached, the money currently in escrow will not be released to the developer); (4) the problem property at 91 Cap'n Carleton Road will be advertised for foreclosure this coming Friday. Recent activity at the property has required response from both police and fire department personnel; and the owner, who has been cited for various infractions, has failed to respond to court citations and summons: (5) there will be a renaming of Waquoit Road so that its two sections are distinguished as Waquoit Road East and Waquoit Road West; (6) there has been a complaint from Henry Oshaughnessy about being dropped from the mooring wait list due to failure to meet the new, earlier deadline for annual requests to remain on the list.

### **Old Business:**

**1. Concerns of Cotuit Site Visit on April 28** (meet at Library at 9:00 AM): it was agreed that our list of concerns was too long and needs to be shortened in order to fit the tour into a span of approximately two hours. The following changes were made to the list provided by Rich Boden: (1) Ropes Beach was combined with Old Shore Road on the "Must See" list; and Old Post Road where Little River passes under it was added to this list; (2) the "Discussion" section of the list was shortened by dropping the items on "landscapers and construction trucks blocking roads" and "halfway house/sober house in residential area" as well as the item on parking on Lowell Road; (3) under "Road Work," item c (traffic light at Newtown Road and Route 28, no left turn at Main Street and Route 28) was dropped from consideration at this time; and (4) the issue of dinghies (what is a vessel and where can a vessel be stored) was underscored as an important item for discussion prior to the tour of sites. Rich will produce and distribute a revised list prior to the Site Visit.

**2. Lowell Property:** nothing new was reported on this topic.

**3. 375 Anniversary Celebration:** (1) Jessica reported that the 375 statue/sculpture will be on the Cotuit village green in August. (2) The Board decided to turn down the Historical Society's request for \$500 to fund music at the picnic the Historical Society will be putting on in honor of the town's 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but reiterated its earlier approval of paying for a banner to be commissioned by the Historical Society to be carried at the head of the July 4 parade.

**4. Cotuit Water Department:** Rich Boden reported that there is no change on this front. He has spoken with Chris Wiseman. The Department continues to take samples and to chlorinate at very low levels. It is awaiting the report of the consultant that the Department has hired to study the issue of where contamination is entering the water supply.

**5. Other Business:** Rich reported that, according to Lindsey Counsell, the earliest date at which the dredging of Sampson's Island might come before the Conservation Commission is the end of May.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Babcock, Acting Secretary



PO Box 121  
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**Minutes**

**Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday June 3, 2014, Cotuit Library, 7:00 PM**

No minutes were taken as the attending members of the Executive Board spent the meeting time preparing the summer membership mailing.

No Executive Board meeting was scheduled for July 2014.

Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary



PO Box 121  
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**Minutes**

**Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday August 5, 2014, Cotuit Library, 7:00 PM**

**Attending:** Rich Boden, Phyllis Miller, Tom Burgess, Bill Maher, Bill Babcock, Dave Doyle, Chris Gargiulo, Amy Kates, Mike Scanlon, Jessica Rapp Grassetti.

**Absent:** Dick Hamilton, Chris Olsen, Stacy Schakel.

**Business Meeting**

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the Executive Board Meeting on 6/3/2014 were confined to the record that the summer membership mailing was prepared by the attending members. Such minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's monthly report to 4/30/2014 was approved. The annual report will be submitted at the general meeting at Freedom Hall on August 19, 2014

**Precinct 7 Report:** Jessica Rapp Grassetti reported: (1) the Town has concluded an advantageous contract with New Bedford Waste for trash hauling from the Marstons Mills transfer station. (2) South Main St. repaving has not yet been put out for bid. (3) There is a new sign at the right of way from the Town Dock to the west shoreline. (4) Ways to water on Clamshell Cove Road are private. The Town is studying these. (5) There will be a controlled burn in various sectors of the Crocker Neck conservation area done professionally in the Autumn. (6) In response to query from Phyllis Miller, Jessica will look into conservation commission permits on Ocean View Avenue where extensive work has been done on the coast bank with heavy machinery and the removal and replacement of exiting trees and shrubs. (7) Waterways are nearing a definition of a vessel that may be stored on Town property. This will probably entail a maximum length. (8) Phyllis Miller asked Jessica to look into goading the Town to clean out the fertilizer and other items from the storage shed on the Town's portion of the Santuit Pond reserve. She has been trying for over three years to have this hazardous material removed.

**Nominating Committee:** Rich Boden noted Amy Kates' 18 years of service to the Board. She is stepping down this year. The Executive Board unanimously expressed the thanks not only of the Board but also of the Village for the efforts Amy has made on Cotuit and Santuit's behalf. Candidates for election at the annual general meeting will be Jim Dannhauser, Tom Burgess, Bill Babcock and Chris Gargiulo. Amy Kates noted that Chris Olsen's attendance has been very low. Rich explained that this was due to conflicting

meeting times that do occur. It was the view of the board that the Fire Chief merits a position on the Board by reason of his position.

**Old Business:**

1. **Concerns of Cotuit.** The public should be solicited about items for this list. Most of the items discussed with the Town this Spring have been accomplished.
2. **375 Anniversary Celebration:** numerous activities are forthcoming in August.
3. **Trash Barrels & Signage:** Tom Burgess had circulated a photo of a dog waste sign from South Dartmouth, MA. "Dog Waste Causes Disease". placed above mutt mitt holders. The association could find a few of these at dog walker trails and winter beaches. He also showed a photo of double waste bins in holders from Oak Bluffs. The blue barrels at our public beaches are ugly, unsanitary and easily used for household waste. This echoed the suggestion of Dick Hamilton earlier in the Spring.
4. **Cotuit Water Department:** Rich Boden noted that chlorination is still being done. The voluntary water conservation order is in place because June was a dry month and the department over pumped that month and wants to keep to the state allowed maximum amount of gallonage.
5. **671 Main Street.** The main house continues to be painted and looks greatly improved. However, the Zoning Board did not permit an extension to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Memorandum of Understanding for the Affordable Housing Permit. Thus, the property has no permits to continue with further building. There was concern that the present applicants appeared before the Board of Health and presented proposals for fifteen minutes before it was ruled that they had no standing to present. At the moment, the future of this property is in limbo. There was a suggestion that the Water Department and Prudential Committee put a watch on this property.
6. 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The Parade was cancelled due to Hurricane Arthur. There were complaints but Rich felt that the decision respected the safety of all. The Brian Boru Band was paid but other expenses were not incurred.
7. **Freedom Hall Meetings: Annual General meeting will be August 19. Elections of new Board members will be held.** The Prudential Committee will explain a proposal to acquire the land next to the Cotuit Fire Department. Lindsey Counsell will present the current status of the proposal to widen the entrance to Cotuit by removing some of the spit at Sampsons Island.
8. **Dave Doyle mentioned that he had given a few suggestions to the Eagle Scout who is doing a proposal for improving the Village Green.** This included an electronic sign for the intersection of School & Main.

9. Rich passed out a vessel census. At Ropes there were 153 vessels on 7/31/14 of which 67 were dinghies. At the Town Dock there were 75 vessels of which 4 were not dinghies. Of the dinghies, 51 were moored on the dock floats. Chris Gargiulo noted that Brewster has excellent dinghy storage racks at its town owned areas.
10. **Lowell Property: The Barnstable Land Trust** is continuing its campaign to purchase the property. It is estimated that over \$1,000,000 is now pledged or given.

## **B. New Business**

1. **Welcome to Cotuit Sign. Bill Babcock queried why the Civic association had not contributed to the "Welcome to Cotuit" sign proposed by the Historical Society.** The CSCA by-laws do not permit a donation to another non-profit. Bill noted that our support of the library magician at Christmas etc. amount to support of non-profits. Mike Scanlon suggested that the Board revisit the by-laws to clarify the nature of things we might support. In any case, villagers should be asked to suggest what items the Civic Association might consider buying for the village. There was general agreement to discuss this matter at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary



PO Box 121  
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**Minutes**

**Annual General Meeting,  
Tuesday August 19, 2014, Freedom Hall, 7:30 PM**

**Rich Boden called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. He then gave a brief synopsis of the Executive Board's role in the community. He called for input from members for the "Concerns of Cotuit," which are presented to officials of the Town of Barnstable yearly prior to a site visit to the village in the Spring. He was glad to report that the majority of those concerns had been addressed with significant changes such as the installation of a one-way flow on Old Shore Road.**

**Rich Boden noted that Amy Kates retiring from the Executive Board after at least 18 years of service. He offered her the village's thanks, which was met with a round of applause. He then called on the officers of the Nominating Committee, Bill Babcock and Phyllis Miller, to make their report. The Nominating Committee proposed Jim Dannhauser as a new member to the Executive Board, and Bill Babcock, Tom Burgess, and Chris Gargiulo as returning members for election to terms ending in 2017. On motions duly made and seconded, the nominations were accepted unanimously. On a motion duly made and seconded, the following officers of the Executive Board were elected unanimously for the year 2014-15: Rich Boden, President; Phyllis Miller, Vice President; Tom Burgess, Secretary; Bill Maher, Treasurer.**

**Rich Boden then introduced Fran Parks, Chairwoman of the Prudential Committee of the Cotuit Fire District, who informed the members that a special meeting of the Fire District would be held on September 22, 2014 to see if the members of the district would agree to purchase the old Nickerson plumbing shop on High Street. This property abuts the present Fire Station. The main building is old and "rustic" but the property has a new title 5 septic system, and a three-car garage. This property would not only allow the fire station to expand as needed but also provide an office space for the Prudential Committee as well as a central office for all Fire District uses. The asking price is \$311,000. Appraisals etc. are currently underway. Fran introduced Ron Mycock, Chair of the Board of Fire Commissioners who added further information about Fire Dept. needs. At the conclusion of there presentation, both of them answered questions from the public.**

**Rich Boden then introduced Lindsey Counsell, Executive Director of Three Bays, Inc. and Kathy Parsons, Coastal Water Bird Coordinator for Mass. Audubon, who gave a presentation on the status quo of the project to remove some 750 feet off the spit of Sampson's Island in stages over a 5 year period. Most of the removed sand would be used to refresh the east end of Dead Neck and for the beaches along the south facing coast of Dead Neck and Sampson's Island. Members of their team explained that applications for permitting were now possible as the MEPA process of presenting an Environmental Impact Statement had been completed. They previewed the data analysis that shows that the formerly stable mainland beaches from Loop Beach to Bluff Point are now eroding due to the narrowing of the Cotuit Bay entrance channel caused by the lengthening of the spit. They noted that removal of the spit and beach refreshment is not new to this area but has been carried out in the past several times. At the conclusion of the presentation, they answered questions from the public.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Thomas K. Burgess  
Secretary**

**COTUIT-SANTUIT CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

**PO Box 121  
Cotuit, MA 02635**

**MINUTES**

**Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday, October 7, 2014, Cotuit Library, 7:00 PM**

**Attending:** Rich Boden, Phyllis Miller, Bill Babcock, Bill Maher, Jim Dannhauser, Dick Hamilton, Mike Scanlon, Chris Gargiulo, Chris Olsen, Jessica Rapp Grassetti.

**Absent:** Tom Burgess, David Doyle, Stacy Schakel.

**Guest:** Alex Lieberwirth, Eagle Scout Candidate.

**Guest Presentation:** Alex Lieberwirth presented the plan for his Eagle Scout project: to provide power and lighting for the village green by installing power outlets and lighting fixtures at approximately 50' intervals along the pathways. Ideally the plan would include both lighting (LED lights) and power outlets. The default position would be power outlets only. Ideally the power outlets would take the form of retractable bollards with lights. If, for some reason, these would not work, the alternate would be wooden posts rising some 2'-3' above ground, which would be clearly visible and thus not a hazard to people walking on the pathways. The potential cost of the project would fall in the neighborhood of \$500-\$1000, with each bollard costing around \$100 without lights or up to \$120 with lights, assuming donation of electrician's labor and materials. The project is designed to serve only such major annual events on the village green as the church's Cotuit Craftfest, the Cahoon Museum's Brush Off, and the lights on the tree for the Civic Association's Christmas in Cotuit. In the course of discussion, it was recommended that Alex coordinate with Pete Rohner, who supervises the Craftfest for the church, and with Jo Anne Miller Buntich of the town's Department of Growth Management. Following the various clarifications that emerged in the course of the discussion, the Board invited Alex to return at its December meeting (Tuesday, December 2, 2014) to present a more fully detailed version of the plan for his project.

**Secretary's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of 9/2/14 were approved as previously corrected and circulated.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer noted that the Civic Association has not yet received the proceeds of the "Bass and Blues" fishing tournament (which are to be used only to support the July 4 parade and Christmas in Cotuit). With this understanding, the treasurer's report through 9/30/14 was approved.

**Precinct 7 Report:** Jessica Rapp Grassetti noted the following items: (1) The "Asphalt Solutions" trailer has been removed from the driveway at 502 Putnam Avenue where it had been parked as an advertisement for the business. (2) A cease and desist letter has been issued to Cotuit Solar relative to its operation in the building behind the Coop (after the previous building on that site, occupied by the Cotuit Center for the Arts, was destroyed by fire, the location lost the zoning variance that allowed a business to be operated there), and the owner is now looking into the possibility of converting the property to apartments, including some affordable apartments. There is a well field behind the property; and, in this connection, Jessica indicated that the Cotuit Water Department is the only water department in the town

that has not yet replied to a request from the town's Land Acquisition Committee to identify pieces of land that the town should consider acquiring in order to protect its water wells. (3) Bids for the reconstruction of Main Street from Ocean View to Oregon, which is estimated to cost \$1.6 million, will be opened on October 28. The pipe that connects Rushy Marsh Pond to Nantucket Sound at the north end of the pond is being re-engineered and redesigned in a way that, hopefully, will keep it open without having to be cleared daily. (4) With the Town's DPW, Jessica has walked from Freedom Hall to Ocean View to identify the patterns pedestrians follow in that area and the encroaching vegetation that impinges on the existing sidewalks. It appears that two marked cross walks would be helpful, one crossing Main Street from Freedom Hall to Popponessett Road and one angling across Main Street to Ocean View Avenue. These would be marked with "Cross Walk" signs, and would have "dummies" as "traffic calming" devices. (5) The proposal to buy a conservation restriction on some of the land around Lowell Park and to purchase three acres of land currently occupied in part by the ball park will get a "first read" at the meeting of the Town Council on November 6 and will be acted upon at the Council's meeting two weeks later. (6) Three Bays has scaled back its plan to cut off the tip of Sampson's Island from 800' to 400', which means that dredging will be required every 3-4 years rather than every 10 years, as in the original plan. The new version of the plan will be before the Conservation Committee at its meeting next Tuesday (October 14), a continuance of the discussion at the Committee's previous meeting. (7) Jessica indicated that she has concerns about both of the village's two rivers: the run-off from private-road bridges over the Santuit River, and the fact that the installation of new guard rails on Old Post Road where it crosses Little River proceeded without siltation fencing and thus did not fully protect the river against run-off.

### **Old Business:**

**1. Christmas in Cotuit.** According to Dave Doyle's report all is in order for the upcoming Christmas in Cotuit. The board approved the expenditure of \$400 for the puppeteer (or clown?) who will perform at the Library.

**2. Potential Cotuit Projects.** The Civic association has approximately \$10,000 to spend on projects to improve the village. We need to prioritize the possibilities we are considering. So far, in response to the Civic Association's request for proposals from the village, we have received the following suggestions: trash receptacles to be located at places to be determined in the village (Dick Hamilton will research the cost per bin); doggie mitts and doggie mitt dispensers to be located at places to be determined in the village; the hiring of an arborist to prune and treat the trees on the village green (note, however, that the town has an arborist whose job would include maintenance of these trees); racks for dinghies and/or kayaks at various village beaches; a handicap access ramp at Loop Beach (note: Mark Els has indicated that the town will meet any shortfall in the private effort to raise funds for this project); the phase II aspects of the Library's "Gateway" project; reprinting and mailing out the pamphlet entitled, "Who Runs Cotuit? You Do"; various projects submitted by the nursery school (via Dick Hamilton), including a bookcase for the school's office (@ \$300), a bookshelf for the classroom (@\$100), a stereo system (@\$300), a trash receptacle for the playground, and new mulch for the playground (@\$800-\$1,000 per year); and more flashing speed signs for the village. There are two weeks remaining for the submission of potential projects.

**3. Dinghies.** Rich Boden reported that, at last count, there were 193 dinghies/vessels in total at Ropes Beach, the Town Dock, Cordwood, and Little River.

**4. Lowell Property.** BLT has negotiated an extension with the property owners to September, 2015. So far, assuming that the monies stemming from the town's purchase of 3 acres and a conservation restriction come through, approximately \$1.2 million has been raised toward the goal of \$1.8 million.

**5. Cotuit Water Department.** As indicated above in the Precinct 7 report, the Cotuit Water Department is the only one in the town that has not responded to the Land Acquisition Committee's request that the town's various water departments identify parcels of land that should be considered for purchase to protect the town's wells. The Civic Association should check with Rick Kiely on this matter.

**6. Freedom Hall Meeting.** The Association's public meeting at Freedom Hall on Tuesday, October 21, will focus on the issue of wastewater. Patty Daly from the Cape Cod Commission will present the Commission's update of its regional plan for addressing the issue.

**New Business:**

**1. Concerns of Cotuit.** We need to develop our 2015 list of the "Concerns of Cotuit" so as to have the list ready for the meeting in late January at which Rich and Jessica will get together with the Town Manager to go over the list in preparation for the "site visit" in the spring.

**2. Prompt Response.** Chris Olsen commended Chris Gargiulo and his employees at the Cotuit Oyster Company for their prompt response to a neighbor's cries for help when he fell on his dock at 88 Little River Road.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

William S. Babcock, Secretary *pro tem*



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**Minutes**

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possibility of converting the property to apartments, including some affordable apartments. There is a well field behind the property; and, in this connection, Jessica indicated that the Cotuit Water Department is the only water department in the town that has not yet replied to a request from the town's Land Acquisition Committee to identify pieces of land that the town should consider acquiring in order to protect its water wells. (3) Bids for the reconstruction of Main Street from Ocean View to Oregon, which is estimated to cost \$1.6 million, will be opened on October 28. The pipe that connects Rushy Marsh Pond to Nantucket Sound at the north end of the pond is being re-engineered and redesigned in a way that, hopefully, will keep it open without having to be cleared daily. (4) With the Town's DPW, Jessica has walked from Freedom Hall to Ocean View to identify the patterns pedestrians follow in that area and the encroaching vegetation that impinges on the existing sidewalks. It appears that two marked cross walks would be helpful, one crossing Main Street from Freedom Hall to Popponessett Road and one angling across Main Street to Ocean View Avenue. These would be marked with "Cross Walk" signs, and would have "dummies" as "traffic calming" devices. (5) The proposal to buy a conservation restriction on some of the land around Lowell Park and to purchase three acres of land currently occupied in part by the ball park will get a "first read" at the meeting of the Town Council on November 6 and will be acted upon at the Council's meeting two weeks later. (6) Three Bays has scaled back its plan to cut off the tip of Sampson's Island from 800' to 400', which means that dredging will be required every 3-4 years rather than every 10 years, as in the original plan. The new version of the plan will be before the Conservation Committee at its meeting next Tuesday (October 14), a continuance of the discussion at the Committee's previous meeting. (7) Jessica indicated that she has concerns about both of the village's two rivers: the run-off from private-road bridges over the Santuit River, and the fact that the installation of new guard rails on Old Post Road where it crosses Little River proceeded without siltation fencing and thus did not fully protect the river against run-off.

### **Old Business:**

**1. Christmas in Cotuit.** According to Dave Doyle's report all is in order for the upcoming Christmas in Cotuit. The board approved the expenditure of \$400 for the puppeteer (or clown?) who will perform at the Library.

**2. Potential Cotuit Projects.** The Civic association has approximately \$10,000 to spend on projects to improve the village. We need to prioritize the possibilities we are considering. So far, in response to the Civic Association's request for proposals from the village, we have received the following suggestions: trash receptacles to be located at places to be determined in the village (Dick Hamilton will research the cost per bin); doggie mitts and doggie mitt dispensers to be located at places to be determined in the village; the hiring of an arborist to prune and treat the trees on the village green (note, however, that the town has an arborist whose job would include maintenance of these trees); racks for dinghies and/or kayaks at various village beaches; a handicap access ramp at Loop Beach (note: Mark Els has indicated that the town will meet any shortfall in the private effort to raise funds for this project); the phase II aspects of the Library's "Gateway" project; reprinting and mailing out the pamphlet entitled, "Who Runs Cotuit? You Do"; various projects submitted by the nursery school (via Dick Hamilton), including a bookcase for the school's office (@ \$300), a bookshelf for the classroom (@\$100), a stereo system (@\$300), a trash receptacle for the playground, and new mulch for the playground (@\$800-\$1,000 per year); and more flashing speed signs for the village. There are two weeks remaining for the submission of potential projects.

**3. Dinghies.** Rich Boden reported that, at last count, there were 193 dinghies/vessels in total at Ropes Beach, the Town Dock, Cordwood, and Little River.

**4. Lowell Property.** BLT has negotiated an extension with the property owners to September, 2015. So far, assuming that the monies stemming from the town's purchase of 3 acres and a conservation restriction come through, approximately \$1.2 million has been raised toward the goal of \$1.8 million.

**5. Cotuit Water Department.** As indicated above in the Precinct 7 report, the Cotuit Water Department is the only one in the town that has not responded to the Land Acquisition Committee's request that the town's various water departments identify parcels of land that should be considered for purchase to protect the town's wells. The Civic Association should check with Rick Kiely on this matter.

**6. Freedom Hall Meeting.** The Association's public meeting at Freedom Hall on Tuesday, October 21, will focus on the issue of wastewater. Patty Daly from the Cape Cod Commission will present the Commission's update of its regional plan for addressing the issue.

**New Business:**

**1. Concerns of Cotuit.** We need to develop our 2015 list of the "Concerns of Cotuit" so as to have the list ready for the meeting in late January at which Rich and Jessica will get together with the Town Manager to go over the list in preparation for the "site visit" in the spring.

**2. Prompt Response.** Chris Olsen commended Chris Gargiulo and his employees at the Cotuit Oyster Company for their prompt response to a neighbor's cries for help when he fell on his dock at 88 Little River Road.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

William S. Babcock, Secretary *pro tem*



PO Box 121  
Cotuit, MA02635  
**Minutes**

**Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday November 4, 2014, Cotuit Library, 7:00 PM**

**Attending:** Rich Boden, Phyllis Miller, Tom Burgess, Bill Maher, Bill Babcock, Jim Dannhauser, Dave Doyle, Chris Gargiulo, Jessica Rapp Grassetti.

**Absent:** Dick Hamilton, Chris Olsen, Mike Scanlon, Stacey Schakel.

**Guest Presentation:** Steve Gould voiced his concerns about the future of businesses in Cotuit, all of which operate under prior existing usage permits in a district zoned entirely as residential. Conrad Geysler has been forced by the Town authorities to move his operation of Cotuit Solar from the barn behind the Cotuit Grocery. This was in response to complaints by abutters as the noise of deliveries etc. in the early hours of the morning. The noise and disturbance grew as Conrad's business expanded. Steve has researched the zoning for the building and concludes that it can only be utilized for retail, such as transferring the liquor store to the building. He is exploring converting the building to affordable housing. He fears that as businesses struggle in Cotuit, the village will be left with no business except those out on rte. 28.

Related to the above, Steve reported that he is in the process of foreclosing on the auto repair business on Main Street toward Santuit. He hopes that this might be converted to a contractors site such as has been done in Osterville or affordable housing. He prefers the former to retain the business usage on the property. Phyllis Miller advised Steve to check to see whether the lot is a "brown site" because of the auto repair and garage business on the property. The Board welcomed Steve's efforts on behalf of this property and thanked him for bringing his concerns the Civic Association's attention.

**Business Meeting**

**Secretary's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the minutes of the Executive Board Meeting on 10/4/14 were **approved as amended**.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's monthly report to 10/31/14 was **approved**. The Treasurer noted that the proceeds from the Fishing derby had not yet been submitted to him.

**Precinct 7 Report:** Jessica Rapp Grassetti reported that

1. **A stop work order was issued at 671 Main St.** after the contractor started to remove trees from the lot. The contractor only has permits to work on the main

house. No site work can begin until there is an approved site plan. **There will be a public hearing on November 18 at 3 PM before the Board of Health to review the septic proposal for this site.** Phyllis Miller and Tom Burgess noted that they would attend this meeting.

2. **In re: the association wish list.** The electronic speed signs, such as that placed on School Street, are available from TrafficLogic.com [(816) 915-4449]. The cost for a sign is \$2400.00 plus another \$400 for the software. Rich Boden wondered whether purchase by the Fire District would be legal since the goal is public safety.
3. **Jessica is exploring protecting and opening public ways to water** in the Town of Barnstable. At one point there as many as 120 ways to water in the Town. She will bring a map to a future meeting to allow the Board to examine the village ways to water.
- 4.) **Three pieces of legislation have been signed by the governor, which will enable the Town to proceed with the process of upgrading private roads.**
5. **The Sampson's Island project to remove part of the spit projecting into the entrance of Cotuit Bay was approved by the Conservation Commission** at the current requested footage of 400 feet to be removed. The sand will be used to refresh the east end and other sections of the outer beach.
6. **In re: dinghy storage, the Waterways Committee will hold a workshop on this issue focusing on Ropes Beach on November 18 at 7 PM.** Rich Boden and Mike Scanlon will attend this meeting.
7. **Jessica noted that the Town owns the structure used currently by the Cotuit Rowing Club at Ropes Beach.** This was formerly a public convenience and she is exploring returning to that use on a seasonal basis, since use of the area is heavy and the CMYC port-a-potty is for private use.

#### **Old Business:**

1. **Village Projects.** In a wide-ranging discussion, the Board selected 4 projects to explore as worthy of financial support from the Civic Association. These were:
  - a. **Resurfacing the playground in the village common.** This is usually down with mulch in the spring, but the Board suggested that the Church might explore the cost of an all weather soft surface, which would not require yearly maintenance.
  - b. **Developing holders for trash receptacle** for the public beaches and buying trash bins that would discourage household waste, be big enough to handle the summer use and in combination with the holders blend into the background at the site.
  - c. **Exploring designs for kayak racks** which might alleviate the degradation of the shore line at Ropes, Little River and other village sites
  - d. **Exploring the development of a 6 or 12 month Village Calendar** for Cotuit which would attempt to list as many of the activities planned by

village entities throughout the year. Jim Dannhauser agreed to start on this project by going through the previous year's *Cotuit Currents*. Organizations such as the Library, Historical Society, and Center for the Arts etc. will be encouraged to submit their calendars to this.

- 2. Christmas in Cotuit: Dave Doyle** reported that everything was on track for the event, which will be held on Saturday December 6. New lights for the tree will be purchased. The hay wagon is reserved and all the principal players are on board. The Treasurer has submitted funds to the library for the puppeteer/magician.

**New Business – There was no new business**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary



PO Box 121  
Cotuit, MA02635  
**Minutes**

**Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday December 2, 2014, Cotuit Library, 7:00 PM**

**Attending:** Rich Boden, Phyllis Miller, Tom Burgess, Bill Maher, Bill Babcock, Jim Dannhauser, Dave Doyle, Chris Gargiulo, Dick Hamilton, Chris Olsen, Mike Scanlon, Jessica Rapp Grasseti.

**Absent:** Stacy Schakel.

**Guest Presentations:**

1. **Henry O'Shaughnessy** reviewed the success of the Cotuit Bass and Blues Shoot-Out Fishing Tournament. The event has enjoyed more and more support both from anglers and from patrons and donors from year to year, especially since the supporters know that the proceeds go to things that are for children's enjoyment: Christmas in Cotuit with Santa's Visit and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. This year's tournament drew 71 anglers in 26 boats.

As a result of the cancellation of last July's 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, donors and patrons have asked where does the money go? Dave Doyle noted that the proceeds from the tournament would allow him to search for additional bands for the 2015 parade and Rich Boden noted that funds left from July will be used to enhance the children's playground on the village green this Spring- a project which the Board felt was well suited to the intention of the donors to the tournament. Henry O'Shaughnessy thanked the Board for the helpful information and asked that the Board seek ways via publicity and attendance at tournament events to keep up village support of the event. He then presented the Bill Maher, Treasurer, with a check for \$8,000 to support Christmas in Cotuit and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade

2. **Alex Lieberwirth** updated his plan for his Eagle Scout project: to provide power and lighting for the village green by installing power outlets and lighting fixtures at approximately 50' intervals along the pathways. The original presentation had been given on October 7. He passed out a plan of the bollards and explained who and how the project would be implemented and gave a suggested budget. He asked for a show of support for the project when he presented the proposal to the Town. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to support the project.

## **Business Meeting**

**Secretary's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the minutes of the Executive Board Meeting on 11/4/14 were **approved**.

**Treasurer's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's monthly report to 11/30/14 was **approved**.

**Precinct 7 Report:** Jessica Rapp Grasseti reported that

1. She was disappointed in the outcome of the **workshop on dinghy storage**. The wording of the regulation proposed by the Harbor Master's Office, in her opinion, did not go far enough in addressing the problem. Mike Scanlon among others suggested pushing for rack storage and with rental fees and stickers such as other towns employ on the Cape.
2. Paving on **Old Post Road** is largely finished.
3. **West Main Street refurbishment:** Cleary Construction has won the bid. No work will probably be started until spring.
- 4.) **671 Main St.:** Thanks to neighborhood vigilance, a cease and desist order on tree cutting was put on the project – though not until after the bulk of the trees in the developable area in the back of the property has been cut. The Board of Health approved an IA system at the property and insisted on a permanent gas powered generator to assist the system in the event of the power failure. However, that was only gained by the insistence of the abutters who attended the meeting. The recommendation of the Board of Health now returns to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Members of the Board should attend this meeting.
5. **The Cotuit Sign at the Memorial Park** has been removed and will be replaced with a now version made by the Town.
6. Jessica is researching having **properly painted crosswalks** installed at various points on Main St. and clearing sidewalks from encroaching hedges etc.
7. **1286 Main St.** was cited for a **Zoning Violation** for enlarging a curb cut.

## **Old Business:**

1. **Christmas in Cotuit: Dave Doyle** reported that everything was on track for the event, which will be held on the coming Saturday, December 6. New lights for the tree have been purchased. The hay wagon is reserved and all the principal players are on board. He will need volunteers. Those were immediately forthcoming. The Barnstable Land Trust will also have members in their signature "Tree" costumes on hand to help out in various spots.
2. **Village Projects.** Rich Boden reported that after exploration, a permanent surface for the village playground was not feasible. The Civic Association will

underwrite improvements to the playground and a new mulch surface to be laid down in the Spring: Work continues on

1. **Trash Receptacles holders** for the public beaches and better trash bins that would discourage household waste, be big enough to handle the summer use and in combination with the holders blend into the background at the site.
2. **Exploring designs for kayak racks**, which might alleviate the degradation of the shoreline at Ropes, Little River and other village sites
3. Jim Dannhauser has formulated a draft **6-month Calendar** from back issues of Cotuit Currents. He will liaise with Theresa Egan, the editor, on getting contacts to find dates to add to the Calendar.

4. **671 Main Street: Phyllis Miller and Tom Burgess** provided the most recent [but outdated] plan of the project with a schematic of the sewage treatment system. The Board of Health had requested up to date plans be newly drawn but the representative of PLM Buzzy and Bay Point, Dan Ojala of Down Cape Engineering, noted that the architect of the project had been retired for two years and was suffering from poor vision and ill health! To do new plans would delay the project considerably. The Board of Health referred that question to the Zoning Board of Appeals, but noted that the drawing for “Home Offices” on the second floor of the condo units needs 5 foot wide entrances to be offices and not surreptitious bedrooms.

#### **New Business – There was no new business**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary