



P. O. Box 121
Cotuit, MA 02635

Minutes
Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 7:00 PM
On-Line Meeting via Zoom

Present: James Dannhauser, Tom Burgess, Len Carter, Bryan Horsley, Lallie Lloyd, Mark Lynch, Phil Odence, Mike Scanlon, Mark Stranberg, Carol Zais

Absent: Chris Cohoat, Natalie Spence.

Guest: MaryLee Halpin, Cotuit Library Board

Call to Order: Jim Dannhauser called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM, and welcomed new members, Bryan Horsley and Phil Odence to their first meeting.

Guest Presentation: Jim Dannhauser introduced MaryLee Halpin, who reviewed the recent developments at the Cotuit Library as it has coped with the effects of the pandemic. Staff were kept on for 7 weeks after the shut down; and although the library sought and received a Paycheck Protection grant, the board unanimously voted not to accept it on the grounds that other more deserving entities needed the money. Staff changes were made, and belt tightening has occurred. 50% of the library budget is supplied by Town and State grants. The Kirkman Fund also supports the library and has made a larger grant this year. There is a potential donor for a revamping of the children's section. However, the remaining funds for the budget have usually come from donations and library fund raisers which will have to be changed under the present circumstances. At present without these events the budget shortfall is some \$20-25,000. An ask is currently being made for returnable bottles and cans via chits from the Stop and Shop or Cotuit Liquors to cover the loss of the month-long returnable duty at the Transfer Station which usually netted about \$5,000. MaryLee hoped that the Civic Association would support the Library's fundraising efforts and consider making a donation to the annual fund. Jim Dannhauser thanked MaryLee and assured her that the Civic Association would support the library's efforts but that our by-laws and charter prohibit donations to other non-profits.

Business Meeting:

- 1. Election of Officers for 2020-2021:** Tom Burgess for the Nominating Committee presented a slate of officers for election: Jim Dannhauser, President; Carol Zais, Vice-President, Natalie Spence, Treasurer; Tom Burgess, Secretary. On a motion made and seconded, these officers were elected unanimously.
- 2. Secretary's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Secretary's minutes of the Executive Board meeting of August 4, 2020 and the Annual General Meeting of August 18, 2020 were accepted as written. Messrs. Odence and Horsley abstained from the vote regarding the August 4 meeting, as they were not members of the Board at that meeting. Mr. Odence also abstained from the vote regarding the August 18 meeting as he was not a member of the Board at that time.
- 3. Treasurer's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's report to August 31, 2020 was accepted as written. Jim Dannhauser noted that our funds have grown somewhat as no expense was made for the 4th of the July Parade. It will be prudent to maintain our savings in the event that the Fishing Tournament no longer can support the expenses of the Parade and Christmas in Cotuit. However, he recommended that the Civic Association explore the cost of equipment to video meetings held in Freedom Hall in the future.

Videos of Association Zoom meetings have been viewed multiple times recently indicating that this might be a service appreciated by villagers and is in line with our mission. Carol Zais will undertake to help with a cost estimate.

4. **Resident Sticker Parking – Main St., Putnam Avenue.** In the absence of Jessica Rapp Grasseti, Jim Dannhauser reported that she had received requests that parking on Main Street near the Loop and Cross Street and on Putnam Avenue above Ropes Beach be made resident sticker only. The general sense of the group was that this was not needed. As it relates to Main Street in particular, there was a feeling that part of the use is by fishermen who would be very inconvenienced by the move and that some of the pressure above Loop was caused by the temporary closure of parking spaces on slope on Ocean View. As to Putnam, the trailers have to be parked somewhere, and if they are foreclosed from Old Shore they will crowd Putnam even more than is already done.
5. **Town Asset Management Committee Meeting:** Jim Dannhauser gave a brief synopsis of the meeting held via Zoom on August 26 at 6:00 PM. The Committee will recommend that the Cotuit School and the Marstons Mills School be demolished, ideally at the same time. They have generally seemed in favor of keeping the field and tennis courts in Cotuit in the Town's possession. Given the financial state of the Town, the cost of demolition, and the recent cuts made to Capital Improvement Projects for the coming year, the prospect for demolition in the near future is far from good. Short term rental is possible for some small part of the building but improbable. Such rental would, however, help safeguard against vandalism.
6. **Report on Fire District Commissioners' Meetings:** Carol Zais reported that the District is concentrating on preparations for the upcoming Special District Meeting at Lowell Park on Sept. 3, 2002 at 5:30 PM. The Water Commissioners are resubmitting their letter to the Town indicating their concern that the Cotuit School property lies close to a zone of contribution to a District well. There is some feeling among the District Committees that the property should be put to District use. The Fire Chief has been holding search and rescue drills at 56 High St.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary