



P. O. Box 121  
Cotuit, MA 02635

**Minutes**  
**Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday, April 6 2020, 7:00 PM**  
**On-Line Meeting via Zoom**

**Present:** James Dannhauser, Carol Zais, Tom Burgess, Natalie Spence, Len Carter, Lallie Lloyd, Mark Lynch, Mike Scanlon, Mark Stranberg

**Absents:** Bryan Horsley, Phil Odence

**Guests:** Jennifer Loughlan, Peter Rohner, Pastor Angie Ballou of Cotuit Federated Church; Jessica Rapp Grasseti, Town Councilor

**Call to Order:** Jim Dannhauser called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

**Guest Presentation:** After preliminary remarks by Pastor Ballou, Jennifer Loughlan reviewed the progress made to date on the church's capital campaign which has raised \$2.68 million toward a goal of \$3.5 million. Further efforts will be made to get 100% participation by members of the church and outreach to all members of the Cotuit community, after first approaching the abutters for their input on the current designs. The Building Design team had several meetings with Conserv, the architecture, engineering, and construction firm that was hired last September. The results of these meetings have produced architectural renderings that Peter Rohner reviewed with the Board along with a 3-D model of the whole project which he has designed. The Board thanked the presenters for their definitive review and for their work in making the design harmonize with the village character.

**Business Meeting:**

1. **Secretary's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Secretary's minutes of the Executive Board meeting of December 1, 2020, were accepted as written.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's report to March 31, 2021 was accepted as written. It was noted that a salient difference in lower income in comparison with 2020 was a significant donation in 2020 in memory of a deceased member of the village. The Association has received a \$500 grant from the Town for activities associated with July 4<sup>th</sup>.
3. **Precinct 7 Report:**
  - The Town Council will begin to review the Town Capital Improvement Plan for 2022 at its next meeting. Most projects for Cotuit have been deferred. Among items relating to Cotuit that were not deferred is the milling and repaving of Ocean View Avenue. Jessica Grasseti will meet with the Town Engineer to work on improvements to northern intersection of Ocean View Ave and Main St. She hopes to have the curbing at the new crosswalk at the beginning of Ocean View Ave. reconfigured to make it more passable for pedestrians especially those with strollers. All privately installed slow and MPH signs on Ocean View Ave. have been removed. Jessica has asked that the warning sign for Cross Street stop sign be removed as that is no longer a "new" sign.
  - Storm water run-off improvements off Ralyn Road will be done around No Bottom Pond.
  - Maintenance work for clearing brush and improving the riverbank at the Santuit River bridge is scheduled.
  - Deferred Projects: Study of Little River for herring run restoration, Banfield Road repair, raised crosswalks on Main and School St.

- Cotuit Memorial Park: Jessica will work with the Community Preservation Committee to seek funds for this project.
- Tom Burgess asked about the storm water run-off on Cross Street going down to Riley's Beach. This will be a "concern of Cotuit".

**Old Business:**

1. Discussion re Concerns of Cotuit Meeting: Jim Dannhauser noted that the customary meeting was not held last year. He suggested that he attempt to schedule such a meeting via Zoom with Mark Ells and his team. There was general agreement to have such a meeting. Lallie Lloyd noted that a Zoom meeting is a "worst case scenario" in comparison to a meeting at Freedom Hall. Jessica noted that Town Hall is still closed. She recommended that photographs of "concerns" would be helpful to illustrate problems via a Zoom Meeting. Jim will seek to have the session in May at Freedom Hall or failing that via Zoom. Jim asked that all members submit concerns of Cotuit to him by April 20.
2. Update on Cotuit Elementary School: Jim Dannhauser noted that the public session was very well attended. There is general agreement on protecting the water supply and village control of the property. However, there are varied opinions on what could be the future of the school building as is or via demolition. Work will be ongoing in the Prudential Committee on establishing warrants for the District Annual Meeting. It's a confusing matter to present to the voters, and there will be concerns over the costs to be incurred. Jessica Grasseti stated her opinion that the demolition should be the Town of Barnstable's responsibility, but Jim countered that this might mean a lost opportunity. The village needs at a minimum to have a vote to approve the expense of exploring the transaction and its real costs, which will convince the Town that the village is serious about its study.
3. Discussion re Cotuit Clean Up Day: Mike Scanlon recommended that we hold clean-up day in mid-May in the way we have done in previous years with the stipulation that people follow mask and social distancing protocol in groups of two or family bubbles. It was agreed to purchase a number of "trash grabbers" for this annual event. Carol Zais has a flyer from the Town of Falmouth on their first clean up event which she will share with Mike. The Board agreed to hold Clean-Up Day on Saturday May 15, with a rain date of Saturday May 22. Mike will oversee the project and reach out to the Boy Scouts. Jim Dannhauser will purchase the grabbers.
4. Consideration regarding Fourth of July Parade. Len Carter, Mark Lynch, and Mark Stranberg, the Events Committee, reported that the State regulations currently prohibit parades. There is no way to predict any date or nature of loosening of the guidelines in State Phase 4, Step 2. Even if parades are allowed, the Association must submit to the Town how safety protocols would be established and monitored. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the committee will draw up a two-paragraph statement to send out via Constant Contact and to be posted at the Cotuit Grocery and the Post Office alerting the public as to the status of plans for a parade.
5. **Report on Fire District meetings:** Carol Zais gave a brief synopsis of recent meetings:
  - This has been budget month and budgets are posted on the District website and on the Town Councilor's blog.
  - Fire Commissioners: Fire Chief is scheduled for 14.6% raise. There is a forward-looking capital plan.
  - Water Commissioners: Budget is stable. The Water Department has a capital plan, but it has not been posted as yet.

**New Business:** There was no new business.

**The Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary