



P. O. Box 121
Cotuit, MA 02635

Minutes
Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 7:00 PM
On-Line Meeting via Zoom

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

Absents: Bryan Horsley, Natalie Spence

Guest: D.J. McKinnon

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

Guest Presentation: D.J. McKinnon, as abutter to Old Oyster Road at the Town Dock, asked the members of the Board their opinions on establishing a kayak rack for the public on a portion of his property. There was general agreement that such a proposal should go through the Harbormaster's office and that any kayak storage should be under Town permitting and provide fair and equitable access.

Business Meeting:

1. **Secretary's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Secretary's minutes of the Executive Board meeting of April 6, 2021, were accepted as written.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's report to April 30, 2021 was accepted as written.
3. **Precinct 7 Report:**
 - **Roads:** Popponesset Road will be repaved from Main St. to Santuit Road. The repaving of Ocean View Ave. will include removing the granite curbstone at the northern intersection of Ocean View and Main St. which will be replaced with a "Cape Cod" asphalt berm. The Town will landscape the small bare area that is part of this intersection. Board members supported "Cape Cod Perennials" as the landscape choice for this.
 - **Town Manager visit to the Civic Association Board:** This is to present the plans for assessment to fund sewer projects planned for the Town. Jim will seek to establish a time, hopefully for a in person meeting at the Library.
 - **Accessory Dwelling Units:** This proposal will come before the Town Council this week, after which it will be forwarded to the Planning Board. This proposal is a result of a desire of elderly residents to age in place by allowing an accessory dwelling unit for a caregiver or the resident. It stipulates leases for at least one year in length, and Jessica feels that it should also stipulate that the property owner be resident on the property. This met with general agreement. In regard to a petition circulating to form a subcommittee on zoning matters such as this, there was general agreement that any subcommittee established should be done under the hierarchy of existing Town boards and committees.

Old Business:

1. **Update on Cotuit Elementary School:** Jim Dannhauser reported that the Prudential Committee has established dates for public visits to the property. There is a sign-up procedure on the District website. Tours are scheduled for May 15, 19 and 24. Articles relative to this item are on the District Warrant: Article 16: To

see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate a sum of \$45,000.00 from Certified Free Cash to: (1) enable the Prudential Committee and/or its delegates to consummate the transfer of the 8.5+ acres and the school building known as the Cotuit Elementary School at 140 Old Oyster Road in Cotuit to be known as “the School Property” and (2) maintain the School Property for Fiscal Year 2022. Article 17: To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate a sum \$207,500.00 from Certified Free Cash to: (1) re-open and fund the District Space Needs project to include consideration of the School Property at 140 Old Oyster Road comprising the School Building and surrounding 8.5 acres in the Study findings; (2) define the cost of implementing the recommendations of the Space Needs study and any other specific use of the School Property as determined by the Prudential Committee and/or its delegates; (3) define the cost of demolishing the School Building and returning the area to a green space; and (4) fund the cost of a Special District Meeting to determine the District course of action related to the School Property. Discussion followed of the warrant articles and the need for an updated space needs study which would incorporate the school building. It was noted that the needs/desires of the Water Dept. and Fire Dept. for the property were quite different.

2. **Candidates and Budget Night:** This will be held on Monday, May 17 at 7:30 PM via Zoom and will offer an opportunity to hear from, and ask questions of, District officials concerning the proposed budgets for the coming fiscal year. Jim will also introduce the three candidates for District offices who will stand for election on May 25 (Ray Pisano for Fire Commissioner, Mark Robinson for Water Commissioner, and Mark Lynch for a seat on the Prudential Committee).
3. **Concerns of Cotuit Meeting:** It was agreed that this would be best deferred until it could be held in-person with Town officials at Freedom Hall. Jim asked that Board members submit their final suggestions by May 12. The school property will not be a subject of concern for this meeting.
4. **Cotuit Clean-Up Day:** Saturday, May 15 or in the event of rain, Saturday, May 22. There are currently 45 volunteers. Mike Scanlon is reworking assignments to allow everyone an area to pick up. Putnam Avenue can be divided into multiple sections.
5. **Consideration regarding Fourth of July Parade:** Len Carter, Mark Lynch, and Mark Stranberg, reported that State protocols currently allow parades under local guidelines and protocols. Mark Lynch offered to research these with the Town and report back to the Board. Until that time, the decision to cancel the July 4th date for the Parade stands.
6. **Website and Social Media:** Phil Odence reported that following the resignation of Chris Cohoat from the Board, he has researched the new Word Press platform for the website. He will undertake to work on a transfer after the summer. Upon his recommendation, the Board moved to hire a designer to design the logo for the website as the current design lacks resolution. The Board also moved to allow Phil to establish a Facebook Group for the Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association to offer an additional way for information to get to the public.
7. **Board Vacancies:** Tom Burgess for the Nominating Committee nominated Lisa Vasiloff for membership to the Board to fill out the remainder of Chris Cohoat’s term. This was seconded and accepted unanimously. Lisa comes strongly recommended by Mark Lynch, who will leave the Board upon his election to the Prudential Committee. This will open up a second vacancy to be filled.
8. **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. The Warrant for the District meeting can be accessed on the District website.
 - Water Commissioners: the new policy on lawn irrigation systems is taking a final shape. Carol again appealed for help in following these meetings monthly. Jim Dannhauser offered to help and to research a method to ensure that a representative of the Civic Association attends District meetings.

New Business:

1. **Barnstable Land Trust/Lowell Woodlands Trail:** The BLT is planning to establish a nature trail in the woodlands around the ballfield. BLT volunteers and staff will do most of the work, but BLT has asked the

Civic Association to publicize the work so that interest local volunteers can contribute. That has been done by Constant Contact.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary