



P. O. Box 121
Cotuit, MA 02635

Minutes
Executive Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 1, 2021, 7:00 PM
Cotuit Memorial Library

Present: James Dannhauser, Carol Zais, Natalie Spence, Tom Burgess, Len Carter, Lallie Lloyd, Phil Odence, Mike Scanlon, Mark Stranberg, Lisa Vasiloff

Absent: Bryan Horsley

Guest: Jessica Rapp Grasseti, Town Councilor

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

Business Meeting:

1. **Jim Dannhauser** announced the resignation of Mark Lynch upon his election to the Prudential Committee and welcomed Lisa Vasiloff to the Executive Board.
2. **Secretary's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Secretary's minutes of the Executive Board meeting of May 4, 2021, were accepted as written.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** On a motion made and seconded, the Treasurer's report to May 31, 2021 was accepted as written.
4. **Precinct 7 Report:**
 - **Accessory Dwelling Units:** This proposal has returned from the Planning Board with the suggestion that leases be required for six months instead of a full year. It will come before the Town Council in a future meeting. The Council is meeting twice in June and August to handle business.
 - **Sewer Assessment:** it is proposed that residences accessing a new sewer will be assessed \$10,000 plus a connection fee which will vary according to the length and ease of the connection. Jessica abstained from the vote feeling that the flat assessment of \$10,000 should be shared by all Town residents as cleaning up the watershed and bays is not solely the financial responsibility of those on a sewer line.
 - **Public Comment** will be available at Town Council meetings on the above topics.
 - **Illegal Parking:** There have been complaints about illegal parking at Riley's and Oregon by fishermen. Enforcement has started and illegally parked vehicles will be towed as the \$40 ticket has not proved to be sufficient to dissuade illegal parking.
 - **Cotuit Grocery Beer and Wine Licence:** This was granted by the Town Licensing Board. It will operate out of the south side of the Cotuit Fresh Market.

Old Business:

1. **July Board Meeting:** Mark Ells, Town Manager, and Matthew Levesque, Town Council President, will attend the Board meeting on July 6, primarily to present the Town's planned sewer assessment. Jim Dannhauser felt that this might be a good time to present the most pressing of the concerns of Cotuit, but that this meeting should not take the place of a meeting with the Town Manager and Town department heads. Nevertheless, Jim proposed that there be no other action items on the July agenda other than the concerns of Cotuit and that the meeting be spent in presenting them. There was general agreement on this, and members agreed to prioritize the list of concerns and remit to Jim Dannhauser by June 15.

2. **Elementary School Property:** Despite the fact that this item is not part of the concerns of Cotuit, Jim recommended that it be part of the above discussion. Carol Zais asked if there might be some way the Civic Association could assist the Fire District in discovering what the majority of villagers prefer for this property. A discussion ensued in which there was general agreement that any outreach had to be structured and limited by what was not only possible and but also affordable. Mark Stranberg emphasized that this applies to the concerns of Cotuit as well and that the Board should emphasize the important asks and follow up with other requests.
3. **Cotuit Clean-Up Day:** A round of thanks was given to Mike Scanlon for a very successful day on May 15. Jim Dannhauser will write up the methodology for this event so that future organizers can follow an established routine.
4. **Consideration regarding Fourth of July Parade:** Len Carter, Mark Stranberg, and Lisa Vasiloff reported that the events committee was in the final stage of working with a photographer and other entities such as the Center for the Arts to join the Cotuit Kite Festival on July 4th. They will report their final arrangements in a few days. There is no change in the decision to forego the Civic Association Parade for this year. Jessica reported that Town Fireworks are planned for Labor Day and that no other village is planning a parade.
5. **Website and Social-Media:** Phil Odence reviewed the redesigned logo for the Civic Association and presented a number of other suggestions made by Veazey Jackson, the designer. The Board unanimously preferred the round simple version but asked for some trees in the logo to soften the image. Phil reported that the Facebook page seems to be attracting viewers and that work on redesigning the website will continue to be deferred until after the summer season. Noting that the Board had recently authorized the purchase of an advertisement in the Cotuit Kettleleers Yearbook, Jim Dannhauser asked if such donations to local non-profits should continue. Members of the Board agreed that the subject should be discussed at the future meeting. A discussion then ensued about events listed in *Cotuit Currents*, and whether they should be limited to activities run by Cotuit Organizations. The Board unanimously agreed to authorize Natalie Spence to give Theresa Egan a \$100 gift for gardening and plants as a gesture of thanks for her hard work in laying out the design of the *Currents* for each mailing.
6. **Board Vacancies:** Carol Zais has solicited the names of villagers who were willing to join Fire District Committees from Charles Eager the Town Clerk. They may be possible candidates. Tom Burgess is researching two other possible candidates for the Board.
7. **Report on Fire District meetings:** Carol Zais gave a brief synopsis of recent meetings:
 - Prudential Committee and Fire Commission were preoccupied with budget issues for most of the month of May.
 - Water Commissioners: the new policy on lawn irrigation systems is an ongoing issue. The discussions in the commission are extremely interesting as increased water usage is threatening supply. The probability is great that the cost of the higher tiers of water use will be increased as the recent rise in rates has not discouraged water consumption. Carol urged members to follow these meetings as the discussions are very informative.
 - Jim noted that the new calendar of board members attending district meetings is now finished and asked members to find replacements, if they cannot attend their assigned meetings. Carol noted that all meetings are taped and can be accessed through the district website.

New Business:

1. **Annual Appeal Letter:** The Board approved the annual appeal letter which will go out in June.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas K. Burgess, Secretary