

**Sippewissett Association  
Meeting Minutes – January 15, 2008 (Draft1)**

Present: Katie Abrams, Susan Cohan, Barbara Eck, Michael Eder, Margaret Goud Collins, Maureen Conte, Arthur Gaines, Peter Waasdorp  
Absent: Bernard Burke, Carolyn Powers, Kathleen Taylor

The meeting was held at the home of Sue Cohan and was called to order at 7:10 PM by President Katie Abrams.

**AGENDA**

**Secretary's Report - Review of SA Meeting Minutes November 15, 2007 – Sue Cohan**

Arthur recommended several changes to the Woodneck Beach Update.

Peter moved to accept the minutes with Arthur's changes. Barbara seconded. VOTED.

**Treasurer's Report - Michael Eder**

**Current Financial Report**

**Mike** did not have current balances with him; he will be sending out a report. We made \$22.67 in interest. We need to file a notice of information to keep our EIN which **Mike** will do.

**Planned Donations for 2008 (1-15-2008)**

|                                     |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Committee of SippOwisset Homeowners | \$1000        |
| Coalition for Buzzards Bay          | 350           |
| The 300 Committee                   | 350           |
| APCC                                | 250           |
| F.A.C.E.S                           | 200           |
| Salt Pond Bird Sanctuaries          | 250           |
| TOTAL                               | <u>\$2400</u> |

Peter moved that we should make the above donations. Katie seconded. VOTED.

**Membership Update – Barbara Eck**

Since the last meeting there have been two more renewals and we've gotten two new members. We now have 148 members, only 8 of whom are unpaid for the current year.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Administrative Issues – Katie Abrams**

**Email to Membership**

We continue to try to determine which members will accept correspondence by email. And we need updated email addresses for those who will.

**Katie** will include a notice in the upcoming newsletter asking members (again) to state their preference.

**14 Maker Lane – Katie Abrams**

Katie reported that the Conservation Commission sent a letter to the Health Dept. encouraging them to take a very close look at the Maker Lane project. She also

reported that Debbie Gove made an effective presentation to the Conservation Commission on this issue.

Katie spoke to the Health Dept. yesterday. Carignan stated they intend to enforce the two bedroom maximum for the septic system. Maureen pointed out that they have to use the Title 5 definition of a bedroom to decide if the 'storage room' is a bedroom. Maureen also pointed out that a letter to the Health Dept may not have as great an impact as a letter to the Board of Health.

## **Winter Newsletter – Peter Waasdorp**

### **Planned articles**

Intro--Katie Abrams  
New Web site Announcement- -Sue Cohan  
Phragmites--Maggie Collins  
SippOwisset Property--Arthur Gaines  
Woodneck Study Update--Arthur Gaines  
Baywatchers Update--Maureen Conte

Peter has received all the articles. **Sam** is sending something about Habitat. **Maureen** will write a short article about Baywatchers. **Katie** will write something about Vicki Lowell's award, also about Margaret Russell's award. **Maggie** will provide the Phragmites article (see below) to Peter by the weekend.

After Tinker puts the newsletter together **Peter** will get 200 copies for **Barbara** who will arrange to get out the mailing.

### **SA position on Phragmites treatment and associated newsletter article**

A lengthy discussion ensued concerning what position SA should take on Phragmites treatment and the nature of the article that should appear on this subject in the newsletter. Arthur felt that before SA takes a position an expert in herbicidal treatment of Phragmites should present to an audience of scientific peers who can ask hard questions about what is and is not known about effectiveness and risks of this treatment method.

Chris Matrick, a botanist whose specialty is native plants and habitats, and his colleagues do go out and speak, but there is generally a \$1500 speaker's fee. There was discussion about possibly sponsoring a talk of this nature jointly with 4 or 5 other interested groups in town.

It was decided that Maggie will write the Phragmites article for the newsletter. She will use Dick Payne's recent letter as one source of information. Additionally, she will include a history of the approach to the Phragmites problem in Falmouth and a status/progress report. She'll indicate that things are at a standstill right now. Katie will notify Dick Payne of the changed plans for the article.

For now, no action will be taken on arranging a presentation.

## **SA Website – Sue Cohan**

The new SA website was published early in January.

**Katie** will write a short article for the Enterprise announcing the website and encouraging visitors.

Sue asked whether there should be additional information to go with the Cape Codder Wastewater Disposal document. Arthur said no and that it did not belong

on the History page Maureen indicated that testing is done every six months or so and results updated.

**Sue** will prepare to put an Upcoming Events section on the Home page.

#### **Noise Control – Peter Waasdorp**

The Quiet Roads committee met with the new police chief. He plans to enforce the lower decibel limit including posting signs on roads entering Falmouth. He has asked for neighborhood associations to send letters in support of this enforcement. Katie will arrange to have the Racing Beach Association write a letter and she will write a letter for the Sippewissett Association.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Winter Social – Katie Abrams**

The date will be March 9 or 16<sup>th</sup>. Katie will check on availability of the library. The social will be from 3-5 pm.

Because there has been attrition in the number of attendees, the Board is interested in adding a program component to the social. The desire is to 'keep it light'. A history of Sippewissett might be interesting, or a talk about Beebe Woods and the fire.

**Arthur** said Jennifer would be willing to handle this and that he'll ask her for some ideas.

Katie adjourned meeting at 8:45 PM. The next meeting is March 11, 2008 at Peter Waasdorp's home.

Submitted by:  
Susan Cohan, Secretary  
Sippewissett Association