

Sippewissett Association

Mission (summarized):

- *protect and foster the interests of landowners of the Sippewissett region of the Town of Falmouth, Massachusetts*
- *promote and encourage cooperation among such landowners in order to ensure that the future development of the Sippewissett region shall be in keeping with its residential zoning restrictions*
- *protect and prevent the misuse of public and common areas in the Sippewissett region.*

Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2012 – Draft1 (Approved 02-04-2013)

Board Present: Karl Audenaerde, Mary Fran Buckley, Susan Cohan, Maureen Conte, Arthur Gaines, Nancy McDonald, Peter Waasdorp

Board Absent: Debbie Gove, Merle Mizell, Bob Skilton, 1 vacancy

The meeting was held at the home of Nancy McDonald and was called to order by Pres. Peter Waasdorp at 7:08 p.m.

AGENDA

Secretary's Report – Sue Cohan

The minutes of the 09/27/2012 meeting as provided by Arthur were reviewed. Sue noted two minor corrections. A motion was made to approve the minutes with these corrections. Seconded and VOTED.

Treasurer's Report – Karl Audenaerde

Karl reported a Money Market balance of \$ 9549.46 and a checking balance of \$959.60.

Karl presented an initial budget for fiscal 2013. Assuming a membership level of 130 and \$400 in water testing contributions, it shows an operating deficit of \$649. Karl noted two uncertainties with the budget: 1. the \$1000 item for 'Reserve' expenditures may or may not be spent, 2. the projected costs listed for the summer and winter socials are a bit questionable since he does not have detailed breakouts of previous expenses for these categories.

Website Report – Sue Cohan

Sue reported she did a 1&1 (our web hosting company) required upgrade of PHP (an internally used server-side scripting language) and a subsequent re-check of our web pages. She found several issues with orphan links which she will fix.

Sue continues to have problems adding additional minutes and newsletters to the News and History pages. 1&1 is pushing a newer website building tool and has limited support for the older one we use. After 5 years it's probably time for us to upgrade to the newer tool or change altogether. It was agreed that the level of functionality we currently have is adequate for our purposes. **Sue** will look into a couple of alternatives and report back. The consensus was that Facebook should not be one of the alternatives.

Membership Report – Karl

We have 121 paid members which includes quite a few new members. There are 50 existing members who are currently unpaid. **Peter** has the list of unpaid members and will be sending out reminder cards.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Vacancy

A motion was made to invite Judy Yost to fill the vacancy left by Maggie Collins. Seconded and VOTED. (Maggie's current term was scheduled to end in 2013.) **Peter** will contact her.

Right of Way Committee

The Right of Way committee is being reactivated following the vote requesting this at the 2012 annual meeting. **Arthur** is willing to chair the committee if its purview can be limited. He will invite members based upon the goals of the committee.

Previous Board discussions of the role of the Sippewissett Association were recalled; specifically, that SA's role should be to operate in an educational and advisory capacity. **Maureen** suggested an initial goal for the committee could be to research rights of way all along the Sippewissett shoreline and put this information into presentable form. She had seen and will send him a link to a document about 'Access in Marblehead' which might provide ideas regarding presentation.

Update on Gunning Point Matters

Survey for SPABSI – review and vote contribution

The survey of the beach lot around Gunning Point and Hamlin point has been completed. The Concerned Citizens group is reviewing it. **Maureen** also has questions about the document which she'll pass along to Hartley. Most notable was the disclaimer concerning its accuracy by the surveyor; the expectation in having the survey done was that the surveyor would produce a document behind which he would stand.

It was decided to table any motion concerning contributing funds toward the survey until questions about the document are answered.

Globe article

Peter recently circulated the Globe article about the Gunning Point right of way issues. Click here: [Gunning Point Shore Access](#)

Other developments

Attorney Robert Ament has indicated that his client is willing to remove several boulders from his rip rap to create a 4 foot wide path down to beach level. The Concerned Citizens group has determined it is up to SPABSI (Salt Pond Areas Bird Sanctuaries Inc.) as owner of the beach lot to formally accept or reject this offer. Also, they would like to push SPABSI to make a statement about its expectations for the use of the beach lot - that in addition to colonial rights it is their intention that the beach be available for other common uses such as sunning, swimming, etc.

Another **meeting of the Concerned Citizens group** will be scheduled soon. **Peter** will send out a notice.

ConCom enforcement hearing concerning 43 Gunning Point - continued to January 16, 2013

ZBA consideration of 43 Gunning Point project appeal - continued to December 20, 2012

Construction of a Rachel Carson statue at MBL

A contribution of \$500 was recommended at the last Board meeting. Following discussion concerning the size of the donation, Maureen moved that we contribute \$250 toward construction of the statue. Seconded, VOTED with one abstention.

Save the Bay Bike Ride report

Karl reported that \$75K was raised. He was the 3rd highest fundraiser.

NEW BUSINESS

Winter Newsletter

Suggested topics:

- Wood Neck Pond studies (tidal and nutrient) - **Karl and Arthur**
- Note on Oak tree die off - **Nancy**
- Hurricane Sandy and storm surge impact – **Maureen**

Deadlines will be based on final date of the Winter Social.

Winter social

The date will be March 10th or 17th at the West Falmouth Library. **Peter** will arrange the date with the library.

Ideas for Speakers/Topics:

- Beebe Woods (and Americorps?) - Maureen
- the new Quissett Harbor Boatyard building – Weatherly Dorris

Annual meeting date

The 2013 annual meeting will be held June 22, 2013.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at Karl's home

The meeting was adjourned by Pres. Peter Waasdorp at 8:34 p.m.

Submitted by:
Susan Cohan, Secretary
Sippewissett Association