

## 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, 2014 – draft3 APPROVED 05-14-2015**

Board Present: Karl Audenaerde, Susan Cohan, Michael Eder, Arthur Gaines, Debbie Gove, Nancy McDonald, Merle Mizell, Bob Skilton, Peter Waasdorp

Board Absent: Maureen Conte, Geraldine Klein-Robbenhaar, Sylvia Vatum, Judy Yost

The meeting was held at the home of Peter Waasdorp and was called to order by Pres. Peter Waasdorp at 7:10 p.m.

### **AGENDA**

#### **Secretary's Report – Position vacant.**

The minutes of the 05/29/2014 meeting which were provided by Sue were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes. Seconded and APPROVED. It was noted that we still do not have the actual cost for this year's Baywatcher water quality testing.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Karl Audenaerde**

The Checking balance is \$609.76, the Money Market balance is \$11,058.33.

We still have the plane ticket which was received as a thank you for a donation last year. Michael will post an ad on Craig's List for it and ask \$100.

#### **Membership Report – Karl Audenaerde**

Karl indicated we have continued to receive dues from new members. He thinks a number of the new members are the result of Kathy Taylor's effort to reach out to new residents. The Board thanks Kathy!

Peter will mail membership reminder cards during January if needed.

#### **Webmaster's Report**

A preliminary announcement about the Winter Social has been placed on the website.

There have been only 3 or 4 PayPal membership transactions to date, all by Board members. Sue and Debbie should make certain the PayPal option is mentioned on the next version of the Membership Form.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Annual Meeting Review**

There were approximately 44 attendees, a number comparable to previous years. We'd like to improve attendance but understand that the time of year and weather the day of the meeting frequently impact it.

### **Summer Social Review**

The event went well and attendance was above average. Peter mentioned he observed 6 – 8 new, younger faces at the event.

### **Summer Newsletter**

Mary Fran did not receive enough articles to publish the newsletter.

She has indicated to Peter that she intends to continue producing the newsletter.

### **Wood Neck Phragmites update - Debbie**

Mark Belanger has indicated that Buzzards Bay Coalition continues to be interested in pursuing this project.

John Dowling and the Oyster Pond Environmental Trust sent a letter to Millicent Bell describing the excellent results they have had with their treatment program. This letter was sent 11/13; there has been no response as yet.

Since the last meeting Debbie has researched the Bell property deed. She found nothing in the Barnstable land registry system indicating placement of a conservation restriction on a strip of land abutting Wood Neck Pond and also nothing about transfer of the whole property to the Bells' daughter.

Debbie will forward John Dowling's letter to the Board. Merle will connect with John about follow-up with Millie. If there is no response then a possible next step would be a letter writing campaign. Debbie mentioned Cheryl Tartakoff is ready to write a letter.

### **Kelly Parcel – Arthur**

The 300 Committee has agreed to pursue acquisition of the Kelly Woodland located along Sippewissett Rd. across from the Flume Pond parcel. The proposal calls for the gifting of a .33 acre right of way (foot path), establishment of a conservation restriction on 2.25 acres of abutting land and purchase of a .5 acre lot by the 300 Committee (with probable contributions from interested donors). Arthur would like to see SA make a meaningful donation at the appropriate time. Board sentiment seemed positive.

### **Dinner for Hartley and Rosemary Hoskins**

Arthur will check with the Hoskins about possible dates. Merle will check with the Seacrest and Coonamessett about possible separate-room and menu arrangements for 15-20 people.

It was suggested that this event occur immediately after the Winter Social – date t.b.d.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Letter to Stuart Rothman**

Peter reported that over the past 3 months the Access Action Group (AAG) has had 15-20 people discussing what to do about encroachment of the developed area of the Rothman property into Langley Rd. The group has produced a draft letter and has requested that Peter sign it as President of SA.

The AAG is not requesting that the Rothmans' landscaping be removed but rather is requesting actions by Rothman to demonstrate that he understands the landscaping is not located on his own land, that it is on the public road. The AAG goal is to prevent any future claim of adverse possession. It is important to the community that there be continued access to the right of way.

A lengthy discussion of the letter ensued; suggestions for change were made. Among concerns raised were that the letter might be a bit confrontational in spite of wording indicating that was not the intention, that an in-person visit would be more desirable than initial contact by letter, and that SA may not be the right party to make the requests contained in the third paragraph.

Peter will attempt to reword the letter so that it is more invitational with the purpose/hope of opening a discussion with the Rothmans. He will email it to the group for comment.

**Winter Newsletter**

Ideas for articles:

- Making private roads public - ?by whom?  
This article would describe the town's process for accepting roads and the associated legal process.
- Phragmites success in Flume Pond and Gunning Pond – by Dick Payne?

Target publication date: end-of January. We definitely need it by the end-of-February so an announcement of the Winter Social can be included.

**Winter Social Date**

It will be held sometime in March, date to be determined.

**NEXT MEETING: February 5, 2015 at 7:00 pm at Sue's house.**

The meeting was adjourned by President Peter Waasdorp at 9:07 p.m.

Submitted by:  
Susan Cohan  
Sippewissett Association