

Selectmen's Meeting

May 24, 2010

4:00 pm

A meeting of the Board was held on the above date in the Fred B Morgan Jr. Meeting Room, Town Hall. Members present were Margaret E. Serpa, Chairman; Arthur Smadbeck; and Michael J. Donaroma. Also present was Ms. Pamela Dolby, Town Administrator.

At 4:00 p.m. Ms. Serpa opened the meeting and recognized Mr. Paul Bagnall, Shellfish Warden. Mr. Bagnall informed the Board that contrary to what he had been told in February, the state would not be allowing Sengecontacket pond to be open to shellfishing this summer. He had a discussion with Mr. Mike Hickey of the Division of Marine Fisheries and he said that there had not been enough tests done to determine a rainfall closure amount.

Mr. Smadbeck asked who was responsible for the testing and was there any way the Board could write a letter to express their disappointment with this decision and urge them to reconsider.

Mr. Bagnall stated that the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) in Boston was responsible for the closure. The office in New Bedford thought that a rainfall closure would be appropriate, but the Boston office makes the final decision. The DMF are responsible for the tests and will take more samples this year at different rainfall amounts to determine if a rainfall closure is necessary and at what point the closure would be. He pointed out that last year was rainy and the pond only failed one test.

Mr. Smadbeck expressed the Board's frustration in the fact that the pond is closed due to DMF failing to test enough. He wanted to know what the State's response was on their failure to test.

Ms. Serpa asked if they could get a list of what needs to be done to open the pond so that the Town knew what needed to be done.

Mr. Bagnall stated that the lab in New Bedford does the testing for all of southern Massachusetts. He has requested to do the testing himself, but DMF has refused. He would call Mr. Hickey and see if there was anything that could be done and address the Board's questions.

Mr. Smadbeck stated that the State is not providing the tools needed to reopen the pond. He stated that the Board would have to address the issue with the State Representative.

The Board then appointed Mr. Nicholas Phelps as a Year Round Special Officer and Mr. Brian Ditchfield to the MV Cultural Council.

The Board then approved the following items:

Common Victualler licenses for Vineyard Golf Club and McPhail's Corner Café.

One Day Liquor Licenses for the Martha's Vineyard Preservation Trust for the Taste of the Vineyard on June 17th and 19th.

A Sunday Entertainment License for the Seafood Shanty.

A Yard Sale permit for Jill Belcher at 52 Jernegan Rd. on May 29th from 9am-5pm.

A reclassification for some expenses of the Edgartown Affordable Housing Committee.

The Board then received an invite to the Annual Memorial Day March to the Sea and replied that they intended to attend.

The Board then referred a letter concerning cutting on Plantingfield Way on property owned by the Water Department from the Plantingfield Wood Association to the Water Commissioners.

Ms. Dolby then gave her weekly update. She reported that she had spoken with the Harbormaster and that the Katama floats were in and that Ralph Packer was getting some wiring fixed on the gas pumps and that they would be ready Friday.

She stated that she would have a talk with Mr. Michael Dutton, Town Administrator for Oak Bluffs about the closing of Sengekontacket.

She reminded the Board that the Planning Board hearing for Sophia's wine tastings would be on Tuesday, June 1 at 7pm.

The Board then voted unanimously to cancel their June 1st meeting.

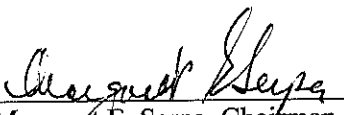
Mr. Donaroma shared that the Library Building Committee went on a field trip to the Chilmark Library and it was very informative.

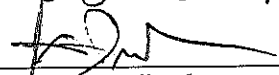
Ms. Serpa asked if that was an add on to the original or a new building.

Mr. Donaroma replied that it had been addition to the original library. The meeting room is separate and the outdoor wifi area is covered. It was a very nice library. In talking to the staff there were some things they would change. Such as not being able to see the whole area from the front desk for supervision purposes and the meeting room is too small. The next library they are going to visit is Oak Bluffs and then Mashpee.

Mr. Smadbeck moved to adjourn at 4:25pm. Mr. Donaroma seconded. Unanimous.

Approved:


Margaret E. Serpa, Chairman


Arthur Smadbeck

Michael J. Donaroma
Board of Selectmen

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Rose
Assistant