

MINUTES
BOOTHBAY HARBOR
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
JULY 27, 2015

ATTENDING: Denise Griffin, Chairman
William Hamblen, Vice Chairman
Russ Hoffman
Tricia Warren
Wendy Wolf

Thomas Woodin, Town Manager
Julia Latter, Finance Officer

Chairman Griffin called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Board of Selectmen and members of the audience.

Chairman Griffin stated they'd begin with the Boothbay Ambulance Service report under NEW BUSINESS (since Stevie Lewis was "on call" and might have to leave at any moment).

Robbie Ham reported that he would update them on their fundraising goal to raise \$50,000 to offset the budget as well as \$150,000 goal for their annual fund drive; that Stevie (Lewis) would update them on some proposed rule changes.

Robbie stated the mass mailing had gone out so they'd started to receive funds up to \$5,000 so far, but had had issues with some wrong addresses which slowed things down.

Robbie stated that FY14/15 had ended with \$900 in the negative, which did not include the grants of \$75,500, so when some of that was paid out after the end of the fiscal year the figures were adjusted to the positive. Robbie stated he would have full reports when the present quarter ends, but at this time was running close to \$12,000 in the negative, which will hopefully end up closer to zero then.

Stevie Lewis stated they were holding a number of Heartsaver AED and CPR courses as part of a Heartsaver Community grant.

Chairman Griffin asked about the status of the new position.

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Robbie Ham responded there were two positions they were trying to fill, one for Assistant Operations Manager (a clinical coordinator working with Scott and focusing more on the business end of things) and another for Administrative Assistant (that Jen Orchard has been filling in for on a part-time basis).

Chairman Griffin asked about strategic planning.

Robbie responded that that would be done by the members of the Board, as soon as the members who were in the process of changing over, were in place.

Manager Woodin stated it was his understanding that the town would get invoices from BRAS with the quarterly statements and wondered why they had gotten an invoice the previous week for the first quarter which would mean being paid in September, not July.

Stevie Lewis responded he had made the error out of habit because of the way he was used to doing it at the Refuse District.

Chairman Griffin asked about the changing EMS rules.

Stevie Lewis stated the required continuing education hours, which had increased from 58 to 72 hours every three years in 2015, were going to be required within **two** years in 2016. Stevie explained that the state was putting the burden on the service to track the hours the members needed to maintain their certification which they did not have the time to do, so have written letters to various people to try to get it turned around.

Robbie Ham stated there should be a "state-wide protocol" for EMS instead of each service trying to manage things independently.

Chairman Griffin offered to have Board members write letters on their behalf if they wanted them to.

TOWN MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Manager Woodin reminded the Board that on Wednesday, July 29th, at 4:00 p.m., there was an elected official's training at the VFW Post 4525 in Waldoboro that Tricia was going to.
2. Manager Woodin stated that at their next meeting on August 10th at 6:00 p.m. there would be two different presentations regarding the RFP for investments by The First and Bath Savings.

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3. Manager Woodin stated Michelle Farnham had proposed two nominations they had received for the Boston Post Cane, one for Florence Haggett who is aged 103 and one for Lucille Machon who is aged 98 and that he would like to suggest Florence Haggett who is a native of Boothbay Harbor, born on November 13, 1912 as the recipient. Selectman Wolf **motioned** to nominate Florence Haggett. Vice Chairman Hamblen **seconded. Unanimous approval.**

4. Vice Chairman Hamblen asked Manager Woodin how the staff customer service workshop went. Manager Woodin responded that it went well and expressed relief that there was no roll playing.

FINANCIALS:

Officer Latter reviewed the financial totals with the Board stating that the tax bills would be going out shortly.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Chairman Griffin asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13th Selectmen's meeting with an edit correction. Selectman Wolf **motioned** to approve the minutes. Vice Chairman Hamblen **seconded. Unanimous approval.**

ONGOING BUSINESS:

1. Chairman Griffin stated the first item under Ongoing Business was the design for the former tennis courts area by Danielle Betts.

Danielle Betts explained that there were two designs (one being the well done design by Don Leighton) which now included pickle ball courts. Danielle stated the one on the left showed four pickle ball courts with one basket ball court and the one on the right showed just one pickle ball court with one basket ball court diagonal to the corner of the same area.

Manager Woodin expressed concern about the need for fencing around the pickle ball courts.

Selectman Wolf pointed out beautification was their highest priority.

Danielle Betts stated they would be losing 10 of the 36 parking spaces in design number one and 8 in design number two (and not because of the pickle ball courts) but thought she could add at least four back in.

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Chairman Griffin stated they should get the experts together and take advantage of their expertise as long as they abide by the town's ordinance codes.

Vice Chairman Hamblen stated he was in favor of less asphalt so preferred the design on the right (wondering if they could stripe the basket ball court with pickle ball lines as well).

Chuck Dinsmore displayed a pickle ball and stated it would not need much of a fence since **grass** would stop the ball, stating how popular picket ball had become and was in favor of striping the basket ball court for more pickle ball courts.

Janet Brennan expressed concern about the need for at least one permanent picket ball court.

Jan Denslow, concerned about the time to measure out a picket ball court, wondered if they could have two permanent pickle ball courts by moving the basket ball court back, which Danielle Betts responded might be possible but would reduce the area for picnic tables. [It was pointed out that lines on the basket ball court would eliminate the need to measure out a court.]

Manager Woodin expressed concern about night lights interfering with traffic.

Walter Kreppern stated if lines were put down on the basket ball court for one pickle ball court it would satisfy their need for two courts.

York Fischer stated he really liked the idea of one pickle ball court and then lines on the basket ball court for extra courts pointing out that grass would stop a pickle ball cold so fencing would not be necessary.

Russ Brackett, who is on the Board of Directors of the COC, suggested rather than planning something for a handful of people they should be thinking about something that would benefit the whole region and be iconic such as a giant lobster that would draw attention and be memorable...as well as connected to the peninsula. [Russ Brackett showed the Board a picture of such a lobster in New Brunswick.] For that reason, Russ suggested they table the item until the possibilities are explored further.

Mike Tomko stated he had showed the Board the design from Don Leighton which he now had with just green space suggested.

Tony Cameron, CEO Boothbay Region Chamber of Commerce, stated all they would advocate for was to find a solution they'd all be happy with and proud of years down the road, that would benefit the peninsula.

Chairman Griffin stated she felt a workshop might be the next step to make sure they did the right thing.

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Vice Chairman Hamblen stated it might be useful to specify that the design on the right would be the one to move forward with after having been at this for over a year focusing on less asphalt and greening of the parking space. [The consensus of the Board was in agreement.]

Selectman Hoffman thanked the large turn-out of pickle ball players (10) who had attended the meeting to voice their opinions and provide their suggestions. [The pickle ball players pointed out the growing popularity of pickle ball in the country.]

2. Chairman Griffin stated the next item of ONGOING BUSINESS was the Trolley and invited Mary Ellen Barnes to speak.

Mary Ellen Barnes confirmed the Board had copies of the budget that had been requested at the previous meeting, confirming that they were requesting \$2,000 from Boothbay Harbor.

Mary Ellen stated there had been adjustments to the schedule with some left-over t-shirts to sell from the previous year. Mary Ellen added that the train was starting up later this year (the following week) so it complicated the coordination of the trolley service.

Selectman Wolf voiced her concern of the use of money allotted for the Economic Development Committee as another post-budget item such as the ambulance service request.

Mary Ellen confirmed they could manage if they did not receive the money until the fall.

Manager Woodin explained that Boothbay had a Discretionary Fund to take the money from.

Vice Chairman Hamblen suggested replenishing the money to the Economic Development Fund in the next year's budget, confirming that this was the only place they could take the money from.

Selectman Wolf stated she could understand the issue and understood the time frame constraints but wondered why Boothbay Harbor did not have a Discrepancy Fund.

Manager Woodin explained this would have ordinarily have gone through the budget committee process.

Mary Ellen Barnes stated in the future they would come before the Budget Committee in a more timely fashion.

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Vice Chairman Hamblen **motioned** to fund the Trolley program by taking \$2,000 from the Economic Development Committee fund, those monies to be replenished in the next fiscal year. Selectman Hoffman **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

PUBLIC FORUM:

(None)

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(None)

WARRANTS:

Selectman Wolf **motioned** that the warrants be approved upon review. Selectman Hoffman **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

MOVE TO ADJOURN:

Vice Chairman Hamblen **motioned** to adjourn. Selectman Wolf **seconded**. **Unanimous approval**.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.