

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District  
Board of Governors  
held on Saturday, June 25, 2016  
at The Quonochontaug Grange  
5562 Post Road  
Charlestown RI 02813**

Members in Attendance: Brewster Blackall, Charlie Freedgood, Bill Heep, Wally Kelly, Julia Mathews, Nancy Matthews, Michele Pallai Reppucci and Tom Wildman

Members Absent: Joe DeMaio and Tom Frost

Also in attendance were Peter Rettig, Manager of Beach and Dunes, Sally Devin, Assistant Clerk, and members of the public.

**I. Call to Order**

The Moderator, Nancy Matthews, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m..

**II. Approval of Minutes**

A **motion** was made to approve the draft minutes of the June 11, 2016 meeting of the Board of Governors. The motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion except for the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie.

**III. Manageres' Reports**

**Police Liaison.** Michele Pallai Reppucci, Police Liaison, and QCBFD resident and cardiologist Tom Lanna reported that the application of the District to AEDGrant.com for financial support for the acquisition of two defibrillators has been approved and Dr. Lanna noted that of the several possible defibrillator models that we could select, one appeared to be particularly attractive. After discussion, a **motion** was made to proceed with the acquisition two defibrillators of the type suggested. The motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion except for the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie.

Michele, Dr. Lanna and Julia Mathews agreed to make recommendations at a future meeting of the Board with respect to appropriate locations for the defibrillators, maintenance and training and related matters.

**QCBFD Marina.** Brewster Blackall, Manager of the QCBFD Marina, reported that we were close to reaching maximum storage capacity at the marina. At his suggestion and following discussion, a **motion** was made to initially limit the distribution of boat passes to two per household plus one additional pass for any sanctioned mooring position held by a member of the household and to honor any requests for additional passes on an as-available, waiting list basis. The motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion except for the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie.

Brewster indicated that he would make a specific proposal at a future meeting about how to deal with boats left at the marina without stickers.

**Beaches and Dunes.** Peter Rettig, Manager of Beaches and Dunes, noted the excellent condition of the beach and reported on various maintenance matters. He indicated that the beach would be raked every Wednesday through Labor Day.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

**Public Works.** Wally Kelly, Chair of the Public Works Committee, reported that the Committee had considered what should be the uniform design of any stop signs that are approved by the Board of Governors for installation on District roads. The committee recommends that any such signs be 24" x 24", hexagonal shape, 0.080 thick aluminum with a high-intensity reflective finish, attached to a white stained pressure treated 4" x 4" post, and located so that there is adequate visibility in both directions, with white stop lines painted on the road. Wally noted that if any stop signs require location on a Town of Charlestown right-of-way in order to meet visibility requirements, such location will need to be reviewed and approved by the Director of Public Works for the Town.

Wally said that the Public Works Committee had also considered the appropriate design for any speed bumps that might be installed on District roads in the future, including a replacement for the bump recently installed on Surfside Avenue that has been criticized by several persons as being too abrupt. Wally said that the Committee recommends a design that is more

appropriately referred to as a “speed hump” and that would measure approximately 39 inches wide by 2 ¾ inches high with a 10 inch wide flat top and straight line taper on each side. After discussion, a **motion** was made to approve the recommendation. The motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion except for the Moderator, who under the District’s By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie.

Wally distributed a map of the District on which the locations of the 33 speed bumps currently installed on District roads are shown as well as the theoretical locations of 26 alternative speed bumps if such alternative bumps are installed in accordance with suppliers’ suggestions that a speed bump be installed every 300 feet or, if a span is less than 600 feet, at the mid-point. After considerable discussion of how to determine if an additional speed bump would be appropriate, a **motion** was made that we honor any future request by a resident for the installation of a new bump if the location of such bump would be consistent with the suggested alternative locations, without regard to the locations of the existing bumps. This motion was not seconded and no vote was taken. A **motion** was then made that we honor any future request by a resident for the installation of a new bump if the location of such bump would be consistent with the suggested alternative locations, after taking into account the location and condition of existing bumps. This motion was seconded but **did not pass**. All members of the Board of Governors in attendance abstained from voting on the motion except for (i) Tom Wildman, who voted in favor of the motion, and (ii) the Moderator, who under the District’s By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie

Wally reported on the continuing monitoring of the District’s water system. He recalled that during the period prior to September 2015 our primary water source had been our Well # 1 and that, in an effort to reduce nitrate levels, our primary water source thereafter had been Well # 2. However, as of June 16 we reverted to Well # 1 due to higher usage and continuing concerns about discoloration resulting from the higher iron content in Well # 2. The Board discussed the situation and the need for continued monitoring and study.

Wally reported that the State-funded evaluation of the feasibility of installing and operating a denitrification system and other options has just been received. The Public Works Committee and the Long Range Planning Committee expect to hold a joint meeting to discuss the report.

## **V. Town of Charlestown Presentation**

Nancy introduced Tom Gentz, President of the Charlestown Town Council, who made a presentation on the state of well water in town and proposals to reduce nitrates. Mr. Gentz stated that rising nitrate levels, especially South of Route 1, were a serious concern and that 80% of the nitrates were attributable to septic systems, which will be the subject of future proposals and recommendations. He then summarized the Charlestown Recommended Landscape Process and steps individual home owners can take to reduce nitrate levels.

## **VI. Adjournment**

A **motion** was made to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:05 a.m.. The motion was seconded and **passed** unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas R. Wildman, Clerk  
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District