

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District
Board of Governors
held on Sunday, September 27, 2015
at the Quonochontaug Grange
5662 Post Road
Charlestown RI 02813**

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

Members Absent: Tom Frost

Also in attendance were Peter Rettig, Manager of Beach and Dunes, and Bill Meyer, a member of the Public Works Committee

I. Call to Order

The Moderator, Nancy Matthews, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m..

II. Approval of Minutes

A **motion** was made to approve the draft minutes of the August 16, 2015 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 (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

III. Appointment of Committee Chairs and Members

A **motion** was made to appoint the Committee Chairs indicated below in accordance with the recommendations of the Nominating Committee, which motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie). Such motion was then followed by a **motion** to appoint the members of each Committee indicated below, which motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the

motion (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie):

Long Range Planning Committee: Joe DeMaio (Chair), Chris Gettman, Roy Jacobsen, Paul Mathews, George Prior, Ron Jarvis, Tom Farrell Sr.

Finance and Budget Committee: Charlie Freedgood (Chair), Al Bartosic, Jim Blair, John Pinkos, Rusti Rueff, Pat Wildman, Julia Mathews (ex-officio)

Public Works Committee: Wally Kelly (Chair), Dick Campbell, Tom Frost, Bill Meyer, Jim Montstream, Vinnie Reppucci, John Rooney, Tom Doyle

Community Property Committee: Bill Heep (Chair), George Gray, Len Kovacs, Peter Rettig, Neal Simon, Tom Wildman, Michael Divney, Peter Gaffey, Richard Stabnick

IV. Appointment of Managers

The Board briefly discussed the appropriate title for each Manager recommended by the Nominating Committee for appointment in accordance with the Amended and Restated By-Laws of the District adopted at the 2015 Annual Meeting. Following such discussion, a **motion** was made to appoint the following Managers, each with such duties and authority as are consistent with past practice and are within their respective budgets. Such motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie):

Brewster Blackall, Manager of QCBFD Marina
Michele Pallai Reppucci, Police Liaison and Manager of Beach Gate Monitors
Michael Flynn, Commissioner of Ballfield and Playground
Peter Rettig, Manager of Beach and Dunes
Kathy Alperin, Manager of Merchandise Sales
Katherine Huntington, Manager of Special Events
Susan Wales, Commissioner of Tennis
Susan Birk, Webmaster
Kate Thornton, E-Mail Blast Coordinator

V. Treasurer's Report & Motions

The Treasurer, Julia Mathews, explained that Ceil McCulloch had been elected as an Assistant Treasurer at the 2015 Annual Meeting with the expectation that she would have responsibility for the daily management of funds generated by merchandise sales and related disbursements. Julia then moved adoption of the following **resolution**, which motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie):

Resolved, that Ceil McCulloch, Assistant Treasurer, along with the Treasurer, the Moderator and the Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee, be authorized to endorse checks and orders for the payment of money or otherwise withdraw or transfer funds from any bank account used solely or primarily for merchandise sales or special events funds and that the Treasurer, the Moderator and the Clerk are hereby authorized to take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate for such purpose, including without limitation signing such account agreements and certifying the adoption of such typical-form resolutions as any bank with which any such account may be established shall require, which agreements and resolutions are hereby authorized, approved and adopted.

Julia then noted that on account of the resolution adopted at the 2015 Annual Meeting that requires property owners to make a security deposit in connection with certain construction, renovation and other projects, it is necessary to open a separate account to hold such security deposits. A motion was made to adopt the following **resolution**, which motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie):

Resolved, that the Treasurer be authorized to open a bank account to be used for security deposits made in connection with construction, renovation and other projects and that the Treasurer, the Moderator and the Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee be authorized to endorse checks and orders for the payment of money or otherwise withdraw or

transfer funds from such account and that the Treasurer, the Moderator and the Clerk are hereby authorized to take such actions as may be necessary or appropriate for such purposes, including without limitation signing such account agreements and certifying the adoption of such typical-form resolutions as the bank with which such account may be established shall require, which agreements and resolutions are hereby authorized, approved and adopted.

Julia concluded by reporting that all but four of the 2015 tax bills have been paid and that she was pursuing payment of those four. The Board briefly discussed possible measures that might be taken against persons who are repeatedly late in making payment.

VI. Determination of Dates for 2016 Meetings of Board of Governors

Members of the Board discussed possible meeting dates in 2016 and agreed by consensus, without taking a formal vote, to the following tentative schedule: a Saturday or Sunday in late April, May 28 or 29, June 25, July 16, August 6 and, if needed, August 20. Nancy will send out an e-mail with all proposed dates so that Board Members can check their calendars.

VII. Committee Reports and Motions

The only Committee for which a report was given was the Public Works Committee.

Wally Kelly, Chair of the Public Works Committee, reported that all members of the Committee who attended its most recent meeting, except for Wally himself, had voted to recommend to the Board of Governors that the ponding problem in the area of 85/90 Surfside Avenue be addressed by digging trenches on both sides of the road and filling them with trap rock. Wally stated that after consultation with various people, including Town of Charlestown officials, he favors an alternative approach that involves redoing approximately 143 feet of the road so that its center will be approximately 6 inches higher than either side and water will drain off the road to the sides. Wally indicated that the approach recommended by the other committee members would be considerably less expensive (roughly \$1,500 to \$2,000) than the approach he recommends (approximately \$10,000) but that he believes the less costly approach could create hazardous, icy conditions on the road in cold weather months. Bill Meyer, a member of the Public Works Committee, said he believes the less costly approach would very likely work and is worth trying. Members of the Board asked various questions about the alternatives and expressed differing opinions as to why this particular problem

has worsened in recent years and who should bear or share in the cost of correcting it. Several Board Members expressed concerns about the appearance of trap rock-filled trenches which they thought could have a negative impact on the entire community.

Following discussion, a **motion** was made that the District expend not more than \$10,000 to remove the existing road pavement and base for approximately 143 feet at 85/90 Surfside Avenue, add new gravel and grade to insure an adequate crown at the center of the road, and then repave this portion of the road with asphalt and monitor water accumulation at road edges for one year and lower road right-of-way as necessary; the owners of the properties adjacent to this portion of the road are to be asked to contribute to the cost of this project but their willingness to do so shall not be a condition to its execution. The motion was seconded and **passed**, with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor of the motion except for (i) the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie, and (ii) Julia Mathews, who voted against the motion.

Wally next introduced a subject for discussion and possible action at a future meeting. Wally indicated that a property owner had recently installed an in-ground swimming pool and that other pools might be installed in the future. QCBFD has a rule that prohibits using water from the District's system for the initial filling of a swimming pool but we have no rule regarding the use of District water to maintain the water level in a swimming pool. The Public Works Committee has discussed recommending adoption of a rule prohibiting use of District water for such purpose but has not reached a decision on whether to do so. Some members of the Board seemed to think that such a rule might be appropriate while others questioned the need. No action was taken.

VIII. Adjournment

A **motion** was made to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11:37 a.m.. The motion was seconded and **passed** unanimously.

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