

**MINUTES of the Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire
District Board of Governors Meeting Saturday, July 23,
2011**

Members in attendance: Stephen Long, Pat Wildman, Heather Cady, Joe DeMaio, Cecelia McCulloch, George Prior, Shari Frost, Barb Ruel, Ron Ruel, Peter Rettig, Tom Battista, Dick Stabnick, Elaine Battista, Ted Gilpin and Sue Birk.

I. Stephen Long called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes:

1. A MOTION was made to approve the minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting held on June 26, 2011. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

2. The next Board of Governors Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2011.

3. Heather Cady discussed the ongoing search for an attorney to act as general counsel to QCBFD. Heather explained the search process and that five attorneys in Westerly and Providence had been identified as potential candidates. Steve Long and Heather Cady met with one candidate, Jeff Knisley, to discuss his qualifications and interest in acting as QCBFD's general counsel.

III. Committee Reports were delivered:

A. Joe DeMaio – Finance & Budget:

Joe DeMaio requested that all Board members review their 2012 budgets in order to prepare to draft proposed finance motions for consideration at the August Board meeting.

B. Pat Wildman – Treasurer:

Pat Wildman reported that tax invoices will be sent out at the end of the summer and that she will be in charge of collecting the taxes.

C. Barb Ruel – Special Events:

1. Barb Ruel reported that the QCBFD Special Events committees are all in full swing. The parade was a great success. The dance was also very successful.

2. Barb Ruel indicated that the merchandise/logo sales began on Sunday, July 3rd. A discussion took place regarding the retrieval of merchandise from the shed during the normally scheduled softball games. It was reported that an agreement had been reached.

D. George Prior – Public Works:

1. A discussion took place regarding the ongoing copper passivation issue. Public Works has repeated the copper level testing in the QCBFD water. George Prior reported that 10-15 new homes have now been tested. Public Works is seeking to determine if the Campbell's home is the only home affected by high copper levels.
2. George Prior reported that the water system is running as it should be.
3. George Prior reported on the ongoing analysis of QCBFD's potential third well. Public Works is considering whether it should clean up our second well rather than replace it with a third well. The question for Public Works is whether QCBFD should rebuild/clean up the existing second well or replace it with a new third well. The cost of cleaning up the existing well would be approximately \$5,000, whereas replacing the existing well with a new one would cost approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000. The consensus seems to be that it would be better to fix the second well rather than build a new third well.
4. A discussion took place regarding the resurfacing of QCBFD's roads. The resurfacing is now complete and is considered a success. The excess gravel will be swept next week.

E. Cecelia McCulloch – Tennis and Golf:

1. Cecelia McCulloch reported that the Fourth of July Fun Run was very successful. Approximately 180 runners participated.
2. Cecelia McCulloch reported that the weeds have been cut back from the tennis courts.

F. Peter Rettig – Civic Improvement:

1. Peter Rettig reported that the QCBFD trash collection contract expires at the end of this season.
2. The vandalized bulletin board at the ballfield continues to remain unfinished. Steve Washburn has been in contact and will finalize repairs. One year has passed since the bulletin board was set on fire.
3. Peter Rettig reported that new signage reading "Playground Closes At Dusk" will be installed and "Children at Play" signs affixed to the two telephone poles at the playground, hopefully by next week.

G. Ron Ruel – Police Protection:

1. Ron Ruel reported that the Charlestown police are

cracking down on beach bonfires this summer. Bonfire permits will not be granted by the police at all this year in Charlestown. The police have been simply shutting down the bonfires without making arrests.

2. Ron Ruel reported that several mailboxes were blown up on Friday evening, July 15th. Three mailboxes were also blown up in East Beach. Officer Campbell is handling the case for the Charlestown police.

3. Ron Ruel reported that over the Fourth of July weekend several parties took place on the beach, including at least one party having in excess of 100 individuals. Charlestown Police have been requested to patrol the area of Nunns Beach and "Little Beach" between 11 PM and midnight to deter large gatherings there.

H. Shari Frost – Beach and Dunes:

1. Shari Frost reported that the Salt Pond Safari on Quonochontaug Pond, held on July 19th, was very successful.

2. A beach safety lecture will take place on August 13th.

3. A discussion took place regarding the abundance of beach weeds growing in the beach parking lot, dunes area and boardwalk. Shari Frost, after verbal permission from QCBFD's biologist, Linda Steer, sprayed the weeds in order to remove them. Shari will respray the weeds in the fall and spring.

I. Tom Battista – Real Estate:

1. Tom Battista reported that the shed is complete and new security hinges will be installed.

2. The QCBFD survey is complete and will be certified and declared by Wes Grant. Tom proposed that we survey and mark the remaining pieces of Central Beach property. We will need to include this in our 2012 budget.

J. Dick Stabnick – Long-Range Planning:

1. Dick Stabnick updated the Board on the clean up of Fresh Pond. He spoke to biologist Linda Steer. Representatives from the State of Rhode Island have been looking at whether we could obtain a conservation easement with respect to the pond. Alternatively, we could apply for 50% state funding, as opposed to granting the state a conservation easement. If QCBFD owns the pond, Linda feels we do not need the approval of abutters.

2. A discussion took place as to what the cost will be to

clean up Fresh Pond. A question was asked as to whether the cost will be \$50,000 or \$150,000. It was agreed that QCBFD will need a more specific dollar amount before we proceed.

K. Sue Birk – Nominating Committee:

Sue Birk reported that the Nominating Committee has developed recommendations to fill positions in the following areas: Boating, Civic Improvement, Ballfield, Police Protection, Special Events and Assistant Clerk.

L. Ted Gilpin – Boating:

A request was made for the old picnic table to be removed from the boat launch area as it is covered with old, rusted nails.

M. Stephen Long – Moderator:

1. The next Board of Governors meeting will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2011.

2. Steve Long announced that an Executive Committee session would take place once the meeting adjourned.

IV. **A MOTION was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 a.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Dodge Cady, Clerk

Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District