

Minutes of the Meeting of  
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District Board of Governors  
9:00am June 25, 2022  
Quonochontaug Grange  
(Downstairs)  
522 Post Road  
Charlestown RI, 02813

Members in attendance: Julia Mathews, Susan Wilson-Perez, Julie Low, Fred Newton, Bob Frazier, Dede Consoli and Al Bartosic

Members absent: Maud Bailey and Carollyne Weidler, Ellen Frost

Also in attendance: Chris Harris, Assistant Clerk; Peter Rettig, Manager of Beach and Dunes, and members of the public

**1. Call to order**

**Moderator, Susan Wilson-Perez**

The Moderator, Susan Wilson Perez called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00AM. Opening remarks included that the nominating committee is working to identify individuals who might be interested in filling the various BoG positions for next year including Community Property, Treasurer, Moderator, Police Liaison and manager of the Beach Gate Monitors and Beach and Dunes Manager.

**2. Approval of Minutes:**

**Assistant Clerk, Chris Harris**

Draft Minutes of the BoG Meeting dated 5/21/22 were distributed prior to the meeting. There was a missing dollar amount in the Motion (last paragraph on the first page) that should have been \$4,000. A **motion** was made to approve the draft minutes of the BoG Meeting on 5/21/22 as amended. The **motion** was seconded and passed with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the Districts By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

**3 Treasurer's Report**

**Al Bartosic**

Through the end of May we are on budget. Made the first drawdown on line of credit in June which will carry us through with normal expenses when we collect taxes. Vision will prepare tax bills again this year.

**4. Moderators Report**

**Moderator, Susan Wilson Perez**

Article in Boston Globe about voting in Fire Districts and current case in claiming voting by non residents of fire districts are violating federal law. Given this current litigation voting status in the remaining Fire Districts is unknown. Should legislation change and Fire Districts be required to limit voting to RI residents will be hugely impactful to our community.

A **motion** was made for the BoG to allow the grants committee to provide for a grant of up to \$10,000 for legal exploration on the ACLU topic for one calendar year with bills flowing through Kathy Alperin. The **motion** was seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved unanimously by all BoG members in attendance.

**5. Committee Chair reports:**

## **A. Public Works**

**Bob Frazier**

Discussion of the Chlorination Project ensued. **Motion** was made for BoG to authorize the Public Works to proceed with Northeast Water Solutions March 24th proposal for 4 Log Chlorination System and Ultraviolet TOC reductions for Central Beach Fire District Water System in the amount of \$90,000. **Motion** was seconded and approved unanimously by all BoG members in attendance (other than the Moderator, who under the Districts By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

Discussion on the Water Treatment project ensued. Another **Motion** was made to proceed with the design, scheduling and improvements to the treatment facility for the public water system. This is to be commenced to do the design in accordance with the RI infrastructure loan and financing specifications. The cost of engineering and submission is approximately \$70,000. The **motion** was seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion was approved unanimously by all BoG members in attendance (other than the Moderator, who under the Districts By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

Water Service to QCBFD lots 290 and 294. Message was relayed to the lot owners that Landowners will be responsible for paying for the hookups. Working on logistics of installation. Sue wants landowners to be responsible for paying all the expenses and costs directly or submit the funds to QCBFD before any work is commenced.

NWSI contract is being reviewed by the committee. The contract went through a proper bid process. The committee will be voting on it at their next meeting in July.

## **B. Finance**

**Al Bartosic**

Annual report on internal procedures with respect to tax assessment and collection. The 2021 tax year was concluded on 6.7.22 with treasurer and two duly appointed representatives. No exceptions noted.

Good discussions with representatives with the RI Infrastructure Bank with indications of rates and \$100,000 loan forgiveness. No additional relief is expected.

The preliminary budget, with some assumptions on borrowing and rates for the water system as well as additional costs pertaining to the renewal of the Dunns Corner Fire Contract, for fiscal year 2023 was approved by the BOF. Anticipated taxes will increase by 36%.

## **C. Community Property:**

**Julia Mathews**

No update yet from the Hauler on the repairs to the Garbage truck. Julia will keep the community updated.

Gardening Club no longer weeding or maintaining the gardens at the Tennis court and Children's Playground.

AED's kept at the Block and the Tennis Court will become the responsibility of the managers of the Beach Block and Tennis Court. Including storing, delivery to daily location during the season as well the weekly maintenance.

## **6. Managers Reports**

**a. Merchandise Sales**

**Dede Consoli**

Brought a sampling of clothing to exhibit what would be sold at the shed on Opening day Sunday June 26th. All proceeds benefit the community. It was reported that a person in East Beach is selling Quonnie merchandise for profit and is leaving flyers at residents' homes.

**b. Police Liaison & Manager of Beach Gate Monitors:**

**Julie Law**

Weekend Gate Guards scheduled to start this weekend and will be there through Labor Day. Weekday coverage is to begin Thursday, June 30th.

**c. Special Events**

**Kathy Alperin**

Kathy reported that we are back to the full schedule of summer events. Tickets for the 90th Anniversary Dance are going well.

**d. Beach and Dunes**

**Peter Rettig**

Beach is healing and specimens of beach grass will be sent out for genetic testing. Will look to schedule a meeting with Scott Rabideau, PWS of Natural Resource Services.

**7. Executive Session:**

A motion was made and seconded to enter into Executive Session pursuant to the relevant requirements of the R.I. General Laws 42-45-5 (a) (2) potential and/or pending litigation regarding the following matter CRMC Notice of Violation; 66 Seabreeze Drive, Charlestown: violation File No: 22-0010. The seconded **motion** passed with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

The matter was reviewed and discussed with no votes taken. A **motion** to vote to reconvene open session was made and seconded and passed with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

After reconvening into open session, a **motion** was made to vote to seal the minutes of the executive Session. The **motion** was seconded and passed with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie.)

As stated above no votes other than to approve the sealed minutes from the 5/21/22 meeting and to reconvene into open session were taken during the Executive Session.

**8. Adjournment:**

**Motion** was made to adjourn was seconded and passed with all members of the Board of Governors in attendance voting in favor (other than the Moderator, who under the District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie.)

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Harris, Assistant Clerk  
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District