

FINAL

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District Board of Governors
9:00am, October 23, 2021
At Quonochontaug Grange
5662 Post Road Charlestown RI 02813**

Members in attendance: Dede Consoli, Julia Mathews, Susan Wilson-Perez, Maud Bailey, Julie Low, Ellen Frost, Julia Mathews, Fred Newton, Bob Frazier and Carollyne Weidler

Members absent: Al Bartosic

Also in attendance were 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 9:00 am.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Clerk, Maud Bailey

The draft minutes of the BoG meeting dated 9/18/21 that were distributed prior to the meeting. There were two small edits were made to the minutes of the 9/18/21 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the BoG Meeting dated September 18, 2021 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 District's By-Laws only votes in the case of a tie).

Maud led a brief discussion concerning the BoG 2022 calendar of meetings. After which a motion was made to accept the following dates as the meeting dates for the BoG for 2022: 1/22/22; 3/26/22; 5/21/22; 6/25/22; 7/23/22; 8/13/22; 8/27/22; 9/17/22 (following the Annual Meeting); and 10/24/22. 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).

3, Treasurers Report

Treasurer, Carollyne Weidler

Carollyne updated the BoG on recent happenings, her transition into the role, recent filings with the State and balances, but had nothing specific to report. Julia reported a check needed to be reprinted.

4. Moderator's Report

Moderator, Sue Wilson-Perez

i. Sue led a brief discussion on the Dunn's Corner Fire contract negotiations on the increasing costs. She reported on the negotiations and answered questions from the Board. She wanted to make the BoG aware that Dunn's Corner would like the QCBFD to return to a 3 to 5 year contract, Sue said she would agree to that provision provided if the contract also allowed that QCBFD could terminate the contract if the District finds a less expensive alternative.

ii. Discussion and possible action on electronic gate, Sue had a resident do some research and she reported on the findings, about \$10-\$15K, for simple gate not including the electronic costs. She felt it was worth investigating getting a more formal bid, but Sue felt waiting for the Commission's findings in March before moving forward on this option. Julie said she would investigate further.

iii. Sue then led a discussion into research on Fire District Governance and structure options. She asked the Board to approve paying for this legal research. A motion was made to approve up to \$5,000 to research fire district structure. 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). Carollyne will speak to Al about the source of the funding.

5. Committee Chair Reports:

A. Long Range Planning:

Ellen Frost

Ellen reported on the comprehensive plan work planned for this winter. A working group was formed to continue this work.

B. Public Works

Bob Frazier

Bob updated the BoG on the District's water and the water treatment project and dealings with the Dept. of Health. Fig updated the BoG on the newly installed street lighting and rebates received.

C. Community Property

Julia Mathews

Julia updated the BoG on recent fall cleanup projects and led a discussion concerning the arborvitae hedges at the Tennis Courts. She laid out the hedges' current condition and different options for caring and trimming them in the future. After discussing the various issues raised, Julia said she will investigate the costs for removing and paying for wind screens for the courts, but for the future the hedges will be trimmed and maintained. Julia said 2 non-conforming trees around the courts will be removed. She updated the BoG on the marina clean up. Julia finished her report by appraising the Board on garbage removal and the garbage can project.

D. Finance and Budget

Al Bartosic

Al was absent.

7. Managers Reports

a. Boating

Will Carpenter

Will was absent.

b. Special Events

Elaine Heilemann

Elaine was absent, but Dede reported on the community cookbook project, the 30th Anniversary cookbook of the QCBFD original cookbook.

c. Beach and Dunes

Peter Rettig

Peter reported all is well with the beach, but he is working on repairing some of the snow fence.

d. The Police Liaison and Manager of the Beach Gate Monitors

Julie Low

Julie had nothing to new to report but informed the Board that long term Quonnie resident Pat Beach passed away recently.

e. Tennis Courts

Mark McEnroe

Although Mark was absent, he asked Maud to report on his behalf that the Tennis Courts repainting has been completed as has the resurfacing and repainting of the basketball court which came in underbudget, but not on time.

8. Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Maud Bailey, Clerk
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District