

APPROVED

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Quonochontaug Central Beach Fire District
Board of Governors
held on Saturday, June 22, 2019
at the Quonochontaug Grange
5662 Post Road (Route 2)
Charlestown RI 02813**

Members in Attendance: Al Bartosic, Brewster Blackall, Tom Frost, Julie Low, Julia Mathews, Roberta Peet, Vinny Reppucci, Randy Thornton and Tom Wildman

Members Absent: Tom Farrell

Also in attendance were DeDe Consoli, Manager of Merchandise Sales; Peter Rettig, Manager of Beach and Dunes; Susan Wales, Manager of Tennis; Kate Thornton, Email Blast Coordinator, and a member of the public.

1. Call to Order/Moderator's Remarks

The Moderator, Randy Thornton, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05 a.m.. He reported that Diane McEnroe has agreed to serve as chair of this year's Nominating Committee and invited suggestions for other members of the committee. He reminded those present of the social gathering that he and Kate were hosting for members of the Board, Officers, Managers and their respective spouses on July 12.

2. Approval of Minutes

A **motion** was made to approve the draft minutes of the May 25, 2019 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).

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Roberta Peet, reported that so far around 40 families have contributed a total of just under \$5,500 to be given to the family of Ed Palmer, our long-time refuse and recycling hauler, who died last month..

4. Managers' Reports

a. The Manager of Beach and Dunes, Peter Rettig, stated that installation of the new railing for the board walk would be completed next week. Weekly raking of the beach has begun and will continue on Wednesdays until Labor Day.

b. The Manager of Merchandise Sales, DeDe Consoli, indicated that merchandise sales would begin on a limited basis next Saturday. She unveiled some of the attractive new merchandise that would be on sale this year that she had not previously displayed.

c. The Manager of the Marina, Brewster Blackall, reviewed the status of various improvements to the boating facilities that are in process. He indicated that he thought it may be necessary for the Board to adopt at a future meeting size limits on the craft that may be stored at the boat landing.

d. The Police Liaison & Manager of Beach Gate Monitors, Julie Low, reported that the posting of monitors both on the “block” at the beach parking lot and at the boat landing was beginning.

Julie stated that she and the Moderator had recently met with representatives of the Charlestown Police Department who advised that, due to a substantial increase in complaints last year, the police would be stepping up their efforts this year to curb illegal fireworks on the beach.

Julia Mathews added that first aid kits, including defibrillators, were being placed at the beach and the tennis courts.

e. The Manager of Tennis, Susan Wales, reported that the nets were up and the courts would be open from 8:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. throughout the season. Possible repair of a crack was discussed.

5. Committee Chairs' Reports

a. The Chair of the Community Property Committee, Julia Mathews, reviewed the bids that had been received from 3 different firms to provide trash and recycling services for the remainder of this year and, in some cases, beyond. She noted that all of the bids were substantially higher than what we had been paying under our contract with Ed Palmer and that only one, the most expensive, covered twice weekly service in July and August. Some would require residents to use 95 gallon containers supplied by the service provider. After considerable discussion, a **motion** was made to accept the bid of EZ Waste for once weekly pickups on Mondays for the remainder of this year, using the residents' own containers. The motion was seconded and **passed** by the unanimous vote of all members of the Board in attendance other than the Moderator, who under the District's by-laws only votes in the case of a tie. It is contemplated that we will solicit bids for future years on a less hurried basis.

b. The chair of the Finance and Budget Committee, Al Bartosic, stated that the increased cost of trash and recycling pickups this year would be covered by part of the budgeted surplus for the year that otherwise would have gone into reserves. He said that the need to budget for higher trash and recycling pickup expense next year increased the importance of managers and committee chairs developing their budget requests soon.

c. The Manager of Public Works, Vinny Reppucci, reported that the committee was reviewing a proposal from Northeast Water Solutions for continuing as manager of our water system and that the cost of this service was likely to increase.

Vinny stated that the chip sealing of QCBFD roads that had been planned for early June continues to be delayed because of the weather. Some, including some board members, suggested that we should not do the chip sealing during the active period of the season; however, our postponing this work could jeopardize the favorable pricing that we had received for the work on the basis that our sealing would be done at the same time that the contractor did other roads in the vicinity. Vinny indicated that he would be in touch with the contractor and have a decision on how to proceed by Monday.

6. Potential Litigation

Randy reported that discussions with the Thomsen Family Limited Partnership and its attorney concerning the supply of District water to the house at 29 Dowd Drive were continuing. Although some complicating issues have been raised, Randy expressed confidence that an acceptable agreement along the lines approved by the board at its May 25, 2019 meeting could be reached prior to our annual meeting in September.

7. Adjournment.

A **Motion** was made to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:35 a.m.. The motion was seconded and **passed** unanimously.

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