

Sippewissett Association
Meeting Minutes – November 15, 2007 (Approved-incorporates changes from 01/15 meeting)

Present: Katie Abrams, Susan Cohan, Barbara Eck, Arthur Gaines, Peter Waasdorp, Maureen Conte

Absent: Margaret Goud Collins, Bernard Burke, Carolyn Powers, Kathleen Taylor, Michael Eder

The meeting was held at the home of Barbara Eck and called to order at 7:07 PM by President Katie Abrams.

AGENDA

Review of SA Meeting Minutes – September 11, 2007

Peter moved to accept the minutes as presented, Barbara seconded. VOTED.

Treasurer's Report – Michael Eder

Per email from Michael, as of 11/15/07 the Eastern account balance is \$10,125.32.

Membership Update – Barbara Eck

We currently have 146 members. Attrition this year was 10. Barbara emphasized that it's desirable to continue trying to grow the membership.

Barbara provided a hardcopy listing of the current membership.

14 Maker Lane and Building Wetland Issues – Debbie Gove

SA member Debbie Gove attended the board meeting to discuss neighborhood concerns about a planned home addition and its impact on the contiguous marsh. The house currently has two bedrooms. Plans call for new foundation work which will connect a current storage shed to the main house. The shed is listed only as 'storage' on the plans. There is some concern that this really is a third bedroom. If that is the plan a new septic system would be required. This will be raised at the Con Com hearing.

Per Peter, ConCom has reviewed the plans and requested paperwork on status/location of the current waste system. If the Board of Health says it's Title V-acceptable then there is no additional action that can be taken by ConCom. Maureen recommended a letter be written immediately to the Board of Health saying the plans represent an enlargement that may make available a 3rd bedroom and noting that the house is occupied by a family of 4. **Debbie** will draft the letter, **Maureen** will review it.

ConCom will hold its final review December 12.

OLD BUSINESS

Administrative Issues – Katie Abrams

Email to SA members

We should use the email addresses provided on membership forms and give users an opt-out reply option to exclude their names from subsequent SA emails.

Katie will send out a test email.

Email to Board members

We should use the sippboard group when sending emails directed to the whole board. There is no need to reply to the whole board if an answer or comment is really meant for one or two people. In that case use a person's email address directly.

Intent of Earlier SA Contribution to SippOwisset Landowners – Arthur Gaines

Arthur asked that we make sure the minutes record the intended purpose of the \$1,000 donation voted in April. The Sippewissett Association contributed this money to the SippOwisset landowners to support information gathering and dissemination activities.

Winter Newsletter Planning – Peter Waasdorp

Peter will coordinate collection of the material.

Deadline for articles January 7, 2008, files to **Barbara** by mid-January, targeted delivery January, 2008.

Planned newsletter contents:

- Introduction (**Katie**)
- Announcing the new website (**Sue**)
- Habitat house to be built in Sippewissett (**Sam**)
- ConCom's proposal on change to buffer zones (**Peter**)
- Phragmites (**Maggie**)
It was noted that Phragmites projects appear to be losing momentum. Herbicide applicators are backing out before completion. Arthur suggested that we ask Sam to have Dick Payne write a piece on Phragmites which could help us establish our position on the subject, since it doesn't seem to be getting anywhere.
- New England water barrel usage (**Barbara**)
- Short SippOwisset comment/update (**Arthur**)
- Woodneck (**Arthur**)
- Baywatchers (**Maureen**)

Sippewissett Association's Annual Report to the State – Sue Cohan

The Corporate Annual Report was filed in time for the November 1 deadline.

Woodneck Beach Update – Arthur Gaines

The funded study of sand movement was started in early summer. Current status is 'underway'; the final report is due in about a year. In the meantime additional (free) studies have been undertaken or discovered.

- A 72-hour nutrient study was conducted during the summer. Coliform bacteria was also tested during the same 72 hours.
- Coalition for Buzzards Bay data is also available; Sam said at the last meeting he could provide this.
- A buoy off Woodneck Beach has been collecting windsurfing related data.
- A 24-hour study will be done in December as part of a science fair project. This will permit comparison of summer and winter conditions.
- A scientist from WHOI/MBL has submitted a pre-proposal to get funding to prepare a 3-D computer model of test results.

- There is an ongoing study of the geological history of the Woodneck marsh.
- An important study is underway at MBL's Bay Paul Center analyzing bacteria in the marsh.

Noise Control – Peter Waasdorp

A written statement was received from the police that they're enforcing a 100 decibel maximum, not the state's 80 decibel maximum. **Peter** will be approaching the new police chief about this discrepancy after he's had a few weeks to settle into his new position.

NEW BUSINESS

Sippewissett Association website – Sue Cohan

Board members present (primarily Arthur and Maureen) provided review comments about the proposed website. The following changes were suggested:

- Include more history and previous accomplishments of the board
 - Show 'founded in' date as well as 'incorporated in' date
 - Original purview was Gunning Point and Hamlin Point, then expanded to all of Sippewissett (Quissett Ave. to Palmer Ave).
 - Ask Hartley Hoskins to provide additional info (**Sue**)
- Correction: Annual meeting is last Saturday of June
- On the 'Ongoing Activities' page add a section indicating that we produce periodic newsletters for members.
- News – Board list doesn't belong here. Put it with contacts, or 'About Us'
- 'About us' might also include annual meeting date.
- Suggested change of organization.. have web pages organize the site with non-changing menus and/or topics, then include changing material as links underneath. **Arthur** will propose 'Ongoing Activities' high level topics, **Sue** will prototype implementation of this type of organization.

Sue will provide information about individual and total file size limitations with our current web hosting package.

Sue will check to see whether the statistics reports include link-by-link information.

Winter Social – Katie Abrams

The winter social will be held in March.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Peter reported that the entire Cape is to be declared a 120 mph wind debris zone effective January 1, 2008. If you plan to do work to your house that requires a building permit you may want to consider pulling the permit prior to that date.

It was suggested that **Katie** contact Mark Rasmussen of the Coalition for Buzzards Bay to speak at next summer's SA Annual meeting.

Katie adjourned meeting at 9:35 PM. Next meeting will be January 15 at Sue Cohan's house.

Submitted by:
Susan Cohan, Secretary
Sippewissett Association

