

BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT 2010 ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, July 15, 2010 7:30 p.m.

Narragansett High School So. Pier Rd. Narragansett, RI

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

- A. Meeting was called to order by Moderator, Ray LaBelle at 7:40 p.m. In attendance were: Council Chair, Bruce Fournier; Council members: Paul Farley, Janice McClanaghan, Matt Mannix, Lenny Mercier, Lloyd Albert, and Bill Dickinson; Tax Collector, Helen Patience; Treasurer, Natalie McDonald; District Manager, Erin Rooney; Harbormaster, Mike Tortolani; and Clerk, Carole Duffy.
- B. *Pledge of Allegiance* was recited and a moment of silence was observed for deceased Bonnet Shores' 8 residents and the men and women in our Armed Forces.

II. Proper Notice and Quorum Attested To

- A. Clerk Duffy responded affirmatively

III. Ratification of 2009 Annual Meeting minutes

- A. The Assembly ratified the minutes with no discussion.

IV. Request for Blood Drive

- A. An official from the RI Blood Bank appealed to the Assembly for a Blood Drive to be held on Thursday, 7/22/2010, at the Community Center.

V. Nominating Committee Report

- A. Committee Chair, Doris Baris recognized the members of the Committee (Nancy Carroll, Ann Marie Silveria, Terry Fracassa, Kathy Kelleher, and Steve Murray). She appealed to the Assembly to accept the nomination of Hope Marsella as there had been an oversight in the selection process. D. Baris then presented the following slate of officers for 2010-2011: **Council** – 3 yr. term (2)... Mary McGinn and Dianne Golini; **Land Trust** – 3 yr. term (2) ... Ted Reidy and Hope Marsella; 1 yr. terms: **Moderator**, Ray LaBelle; **Clerk**, Carole Duffy; **Tax Collector**, Helen Patience; **Treasurer**, Natalie McDonald; **Fire Wardens**, Bill Byrne and Gerry Morriseau; **Tax Assessors**, Doris Baris, Marion Donnelly and Janelle Tortolani.
- B. Nominations from the floor for regular officers... Steve McCooey nominated John Pariseault for Council seat and it was seconded.
- C. Candidates were introduced and Mary McGinn and Dianne Golini briefly spoke. Doris Baris spoke for Ted Reidy and Steve McCooey spoke for John Pariseault.
- D. P. Farley made a **motion** 2nd by J. McClanaghan for the Clerk to cast one ballot for all unopposed nominees. **Discussion**: none. **Motion** passed.

VI. Nomination of Taxpayers to Serve on Nominating Committee

- A. Doris Baris, Joyce Crook, Bill Dickinson, Bruce Fournier, Mimmy Logee, Steve McCooey, Donna Monaghan, Shelley Parness, Joe Thomas, and George Vine.

VII. By-Law Amendments

- A. Moderator LaBelle introduced the amendments: 1) fiscal year 2) tie votes 3) recounts at elections. See attached ballot with detailed information.

VIII. Ballot Vote

A. District Officers, Nominating Committee Members, and By-Law Amendments

IX. Tax Collector

A. Helen Patience reported: total assessment: \$529,404,000; assessments abated: - \$6,655,400; total taxable assessments: \$522,748,600; total collectable taxes-\$245,888,000. Left to collect from this year: \$8360.43 See attached report.

X. Treasurer

A. Natalie McDonald reported for the 12 months ending June 30, 2010: total revenue: \$282,000 approximately 88% is tax revenue; tax dollars expended this year... trash, beach maintenance and lifeguards, legal, insurance, etc... Summer camp, harbor and social activities pay for themselves. Surplus of \$20,000 and undesignated cash balances of \$46,000 along with designated fund reserve balances of \$53,000. For the future: no tax increase; dredging at Little Beach (est. \$102,000); tractor lease (\$10,000); and extension of Community Center garage (\$5,000). See attached report.

XI. Ratification of Compensation

A. **Motion** was made and seconded to accept the following rates of pay: Tax Collector (\$5000); Treasurer (\$3500); and Clerk (\$3000). **Discussion:** none. **Motion** passed.

XII. Land Trust Report

A. Land Trust Chair, Terry Duffy, reported that due to a solid balance in the Land Trust account and no new expenditures for the past year the Trust was not seeking new funds. **Motion** made and 2nd; no discussion; **Motion** passed.

XIII. State of the District Report

Council Chair, Bruce Fournier, thanked fellow Council members and members of various Committees for all the work put in this year. Fournier continued by acknowledging the time and effort expended by residents who volunteered for the various events and projects. Each Committee member has accrued uncountable hours working on various projects to make living in Bonnet better every day and in his estimation the District is in pretty good shape.

A. Financial

- For 2nd year in a row, the Council has been able to maintain services with no tax increases acknowledging ongoing fiscal constraints in RI. Our budget allows for ongoing improvements as well as for unexpected needs
- For the 7th year in a row we have maintained same fixed cost for trash removal keeping the same quality of service
- Community Center facelift: replacement of fire doors to comply with safety standards and complete remodeling of kitchen... thanks to the kitchen crew

*Our new backhoe/tractor allows us to undertake more of our own projects on an as needed basis; such as: sand removal at Kelley Beach, installation of entrance signs, excavation and repair of Little Beach water lines, removal and relocation of

large boulders at Kelley Beach entrance, and raking and removal of large amounts of seaweed at Little Beach

- Beach bus will run on Saturdays/Sundays from 11:00-5:00; plus Labor Day

B. Environmental

- Many residents volunteered on Earth Day to collect litter from our streets and beaches
- Members of Beach Committee & Land Trust cleaned, replanted and mulched our common areas to provide eye pleasing flower gardens.
- Members of the Beach and Land Trust Committees devoted many hours developing a balanced approach to maintaining the integrity of our most valuable resource, Kelly Beach. These endeavors included: hiring an off duty police officer to reduce illegal parking on our streets; posting of new signage indicating that Kelly Beach is private; hiring a security person to patrol the beach to increase safety; and securing resident volunteers to sit at the breach way entrance to discourage parking and off loading beachgoers at that site. Furthermore, strategic partnering with the BSBC has again allowed us to maintain and clean Kelly Beach in a cost effective and timely manner
- Members of the Harbor Committee continue to be vigilant in their quest to secure all the necessary studies and permits needed to allow dredging of the harbor. If all goes well, the dredging could happen this fall.
- Members of the Roads Committee sought and hired a maintenance person in the spring. This individual will be responsible for grass and hedge cutting in our common areas. Narragansett Public Works officials have assured us that we will receive our fair share of repair monies for road upgrades.

C. Legal

- Members of the By-Laws Committee met throughout the year to craft a set of amendments for consideration tonight at the Annual Meeting. These include: changing the fiscal year to April 30th to facilitate the budget process; spelling out a procedure to follow in the event of election ties; and a procedure to follow in the event of a recount request following the results of a ballot vote.

D. Social and Recreational

- Many events were planned by the Social Committee. These included: the annual Holiday party, BSBC barbeque, game night, “welcome the kitchen”, flower arranging, cookbook publishing, card playing and more. Response from the community has been overwhelming; even more than anticipated in most instances.
- The Annual Bonnet Days event was planned and carried out by members of the Committee and by all accounts this year’s program was a huge success. Walkers, runners and especially the children look forward to this event which is much appreciated by all participants.

- Summer Camp is in full swing with the first session almost done and the second beginning on July 26th. I urge you to sign up your children and grandchildren as it is great entertainment for them and a few hours break for you.

Finally, I wish the new Council all the best and to remind them to be good stewards of the BSFD tax dollars for which they have been entrusted, but also just as important, be good stewards of the BSFD as a whole. You must maintain it and improve it whenever possible; to not only see the short term costs, but the long term benefits of investing in the Fire District.

XIV: Old Business

- A. None

XV: New Business

- A. Causeway and ponds are being monitored, but Audubon Society is in charge
- B. FEMA assistance for March flooding is still being pursued by Ray LaBelle, George Monaghan, and George Vine and end result looks favorable.
- C. Resident, Ray Mello, asked about Kelly Beach security guard. J.McClanaghan responded "chapter and verse" as quoted in Newsletter...guard has been hired in response to non residents using Kelly Beach and for safety of beachgoers who may be disregarding signs for beach use. No pass system is currently in place. BSBC has doubled security. In response to question from R.Mello about continuity of guards...J.McClanaghan responded that there would be a small hiatus as the original person has time off. Finally, J.McClanaghan stated that the person at entrance to Kelly Beach would have a list of residents from now on.

XVI. Election Results (* denotes Election winners)

Council: Dianne Golini (62) * Mary McGinn (110) * John Pariseault (86)

Moderator: * Ray LaBelle **Clerk:** * Carole Duffy

Tax Assessors: *Doris Baris, * Marion Donnelly *Janelle Tortolani

Tax Collector: * Helen Patience

Treasurer: * Natalie McDonald

Tax Assessors: * Doris Baris *Marion Donnelly * Janelle Tortolani

Fire Wardens: * Bill Byrne, *Gerry Morisseau

Land Trust: * Ted Reidy, * Hope Marsella

Nominating Committee:

* Doris Baris (65) * Bill Dickinson (86) * Bruce Fournier (82)
* Steve McCooley* (76) *D.Monaghan (80); Joyce Crook (50)
Mimmy Logee (59) Shelley Parness (42) Joe Thomas (56)
George Vine 63)

XVII: Adjournment

Motion to adjourn; 2nd and Assembly voted unanimously in favor. 9:00p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Carole Duffy, Clerk

Minutes Ratified on

Carole Duffy
July 21, 2011

2010 By-Law Amendments

Amend Article VI, Section 1 to read:

“The fiscal year of the district shall end on the thirtieth day of April in each year.”

APPROVE 134 ✓

REJECT 3

Proposed Amendment to Article III, Section 2:

“Section 2 (a). Ties. In the event that an election held for district council, district land trust, district nominating committee or for any other district office enumerated in Article III results in a tie vote, whereby two or more candidates each receive the same number of total votes at an Annual or Special Meeting of the district, the candidates with the same number of votes will partake in a game of chance to resolve the tie. The Clerk of the district shall oversee the game of chance. The winner of the game of chance shall win the election for that office and be seated in that office. The Clerk of the district shall provide the result of the game of chance in an addendum to the minutes of the Annual or Special Meeting.

In the event the election for the Clerk of the district results in a tie vote, the Moderator of the District shall oversee the game of chance to determine which candidate shall serve in the office of Clerk.”

APPROVE 103 ✓

REJECT 33

Proposed Amendment to Article III, Section 2:

“Section 2 (b). Recounts. Any candidate for district council, district land trust, district nominating committee or for any of the district offices enumerated in Article III may request a recount of the votes cast for the office at an Annual or Special Meeting of the district. The candidate requesting the recount must make the recount request before the Annual or Special Meeting is adjourned. In response to the recount request, the Moderator of the district must conduct and oversee the recount before the Annual or Special Meeting is adjourned. The recount process shall take place in the following manner:

- (i) All candidates for the office being recounted may identify up to two (2) qualified voters of the district to participate in the recount
- (ii) These designated recount participants shall recount the ballots during the Annual or Special Meeting
- (iii) The Moderator shall not count or recount any ballots, but shall resolve any disputes
- (iv) The Moderator shall tally the results provided by the recount participants

The Moderator’s tally of the recounted ballots shall provide the official and final result for that office. The clerk shall include both the results of the original count and the results of any recount in the minutes of the Annual or Special Meeting.

If the election of the Moderator is being recounted or the Moderator is unable to perform the recount, the clerk of the district shall conduct and oversee the recount.”

APPROVE 106 ✓

REJECT 29

Bonnet Shores Fire District
Annual Meeting – 7/15/10
Treasurer's Report

This is the Treasurer's Report for the 12 months ended June 30, 2010.

- Total revenue for the year was \$282,000, approximately 88% is tax revenue.
- To give you a rough idea where our **tax revenue dollars** were spent this past year:
 - Trash Pick-up, other public works and property maintenance required 55% of our tax receipts
 - Beach maintenance and lifeguards required 10% of our tax receipts
 - The remaining 35% was allocated to insurance, legal & general management of the district
 - The activities that entirely pay for themselves and do not consume tax dollars include the summer camp, harbor/mooring field operations, and social activities
- The Fire District ended the year with a surplus of \$ 20,000. The surplus is a result of a number of factors, including:
 - A larger than expected surplus carried forward from the prior year
 - Lower than budgeted administrative costs
 - Lower than budgeted beach activities (primarily the beach bus and lifeguard salaries)
- The District ended the year with undesignated cash balances of \$46,000
 - we require at least this amount in our operating accounts at year-end to carry us through until we start receiving our tax revenue, around the second week in August
- Designated fund reserve balances totaling an additional \$53,000. The designated balances cover a variety of projects such as a harbor improvement fund, land trust, historical committee and capital fund balances.

Looking ahead, the council has put together this year's budget, which for your reference is published in the June Newsletter.

Tax revenue has been budgeted to remain the same, with no increase on prior year.

Capital Improvement in the coming year is budgeted at \$35,000 with three planned projects:

1. The council has decided to proceed with the Little Beach Channel dredging project. The project is estimated to cost \$102,000 and will be bank financed over a 5 year period. It is anticipated that the project will be paid for by a combination

of Mooring and Ramp fee increases and general taxpayer dollars. \$20,000 has been earmarked in the capital budget for this coming year.

2. Council has budgeted \$10,000 for the 2nd year of a 5 year lease commitment to purchase the John Deere Backhoe. Total purchase price of the backhoe will be ~~\$50,000.~~ 47,400.
3. Council has budgeted for an extension of the existing garage at the community center in the amount of \$5,000. This extension will house the backhoe as well as provide some dry storage for documents.

This concludes my report, a copy of the year-end financials will be posted on the website.

TAX COLLECTORS REPORT
 BONNET SHORES FIRE DISTRICT
 July 15, 2010
 ANNUAL MEETING

F/Y 2011	
TOTAL ASSESSMENT:	\$529,404,000
ASSESSMENTS ABATED:	-\$6,655,400
TOTAL TAXABLE ASSESSMENTS	\$522,748,600
TOTAL COLLECTABLE TAXES:	\$245,888.00
TAXES COLLECTED TO DATE:	\$0.00
RETURNED CHECK FEES:	\$0.00
INTEREST COLLECTED:	\$0.00
PERCENTAGE COLLECTED:	0.00%
OUTSTANDING TAXES 2010:	\$245,888.00
FY10	
TAXES DUE:	\$8,360.43
FY09	
TAXES DUE:	\$5,723.62
FY08	
TAXES DUE:	\$5,400.53
FY07	
TAXES DUE:	\$955.77
FY06	
TAXES DUE:	\$160.00