



NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION MEETING

January 23, 2024, at 4:00 pm

Meeting held in the Learning Lab of the Atheneum and by Zoom

DRAFT MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Attendance in the Atheneum: Peggy Altreuter, Mary Anne Easley, Lee Saperstein, Anne Terry, and Henry Terry.

Attendance by Zoom: Trish Bridier, Marsha Fader, Doris Hanna, Bill Seay, Barbara von der Groeben, Charley Walters, and Paula Williams.

Guest: Andrew (Drew) Patnode, Director, Department of Public Works, DPW.

Thanks to the Atheneum, Samantha Aguiar, for hosting the meeting. which was recorded and the link to the video is included here: <https://youtu.be/jufmUauNRs8>.

I. Call the January 23, 2024, Nantucket Town Association Meeting to Order.

President Henry Terry called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm. He announced that the meeting is being recorded and those who could not attend are welcome to use the above link to watch the recording. He also announced that no Town Area Plan Work Group items would be discussed.

II. Approval of minutes of the Meeting of October 24, 2023.

Henry Terry asked for approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 24, 2023; Trish Bridier moved their approval, Paula Williams seconded them, and the vote to approve was unanimous.

III. Treasurer's Report.

In the Treasurer's absence, Henry Terry gave the Treasurer's report. The starting balance was \$3,994.87, which was increased by dues payments of \$90.00, and decreased by a fee payment of \$15.00, giving an ending balance of \$ 4,069.87. Nine members have already paid their 2024 dues. The report, attached, was accepted upon a motion made by Mary Anne Easley, seconded by Anne Terry, and approved unanimously. Henry Terry, echoed by Lee Saperstein, noted that annual dues for 2024 are now due. Payment can be made by check or PayPal; see the Association's web site (<https://www.nantuckettownassociation.org/>) for details.

IV. Guest Speaker. Drew Patnode, Director, DPW. apatnode@nantucket-ma.gov.

After a brief introduction by Henry Terry, Drew Patnode began by saying that he has been in his director's position since July and he is enjoying it a great deal. Before that, he had been on Nantucket for the past seven years as a consulting engineer with Weston and Sampson. His first assignment was with the sewer

project in Shimmo and then he moved on to work on road improvements. He helped create the Sewer District Master Plan, <https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/1536/Sewer-District-Master-Plan>. He was the Resident Engineer for the Surfside Road gravity sewer project. He enjoys a good relationship with the key Town departments of sewer and water. He noted for the Association that the DPW is doing a lot of work in the Town Area, particularly sidewalks, although that work is on hold during the winter season.

The DPW is in the process of assembling a five-year capital plan -- a lot of it sewers – that will match needs with resources, both fiscal and personnel. When it is completed, they will publicize it extensively so that people can anticipate when their street might be paved. Close coordination with the Sewer and Water departments will ensure that roads will be re-paved only after all trenching work is done. They are also working on a design for rebuilding their headquarters on the Madaket Road. Close coordination also with the Town's Coastal Resilience team in the Natural Resources Department will help to define projects to protect against sea-level rise.

Peggy Altreuter asked about the future of the Waste Recycling Facility, affectionately, “the dump”, and planning for the expiration of the Waste Options management contract. He replied that they will issue an RFP in the next few months for planning support. The Long-Term Solid Waste Planning Work Group, which is working diligently on this topic, made a presentation that lays out the considerations for future planning, <https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/2863/Long-term-Solid-Waste-Planning>. The management of our wastes is super critical and challenging for the Island.

Lee Saperstein noted that the staff at Facility and the Take or Leave It were hard working and rarely got a thank you for their efforts; he said that he hoped that they would get thanks from the DPW. Drew Patnode then reviewed procedures at the dump; only ten percent of the wastes are buried in the landfill cells. This is the residual material coming from the digester. Everything else is recycled as compost or construction material or sent off Island as recyclable materials, primarily cardboard and plastics, or as non-compostable, non-recyclable materials. Wastes taken from the holding bins at the bottom of the disposal chutes, go up a conveyor belt where hand-picking removes material that is not going into the digester. Often, these are recyclables; plastic is a major waste stream. Coarse material (glass, concrete, rock, etc.) is provided for re-use in road beds, drainage ditches, and the like. Sorting and disposal of “mixed excavation waste” is done on site. Construction and demolition, C and D, wastes go off island. The presentation referenced above was made by George Aronson from CRMC (waste disposal consultant), Christopher Lowe, Solid Waste Manager, and Alice Kellogg, Recycling Coordinator.

Lee Saperstein explained that, as a member of the work group that wrote the Best Management Plan for Fertilizer Application on Nantucket, he wondered if a nutrient assay was available for the recycled compost. Drew Patnode said that he thought that it was but would check. Anne Terry asked if there was any possibility to recycle viable plants discarded by landscapers. Again, he said that he would check. Lee Saperstein thought that composting of garden wastes was done the traditional way, i.e., open air composting and not through the digester; Drew Patnode agreed.

He noted that the DPW is almost fully staffed with just a couple of open positions yet to be filled. Henry Terry asked if there were any new projects on the horizon. Victor-Brandon Co. who do most of the paving and sidewalks in Nantucket has laid off workers for the winter and will resume in the spring. Drew Patnode said that, even if they had all the funds in the world, the ability to pave is limited by logistics of the number of roads that they may close at any one time and of the

availability of qualified workers. He added that, with the cooperation of the sewer and water departments, all paving projects will be final and permanent.

Peggy Altreuter observed that there were temporary sidewalks on Lily and nearby streets. Yes, said Drew Patmore, this was a good case of holding off final paving and sidewalk installation until all the sewer work is finished. He noted that quality assurance on this project is provided by a Resident Engineer from Environmental Partners. Lee Saperstein asked about Atlantic Avenue, particularly its sidewalks. The answer was that when it is repaved, the sidewalks will be fixed with brick. Drew Patnode stressed that the Town's code provides for the control of re-opening of roads once they have been repaved (Regulation 354-8, "Street opening restrictions"). Lee Saperstein asked if pipe jacking has been used on Nantucket to install conduits under a roadway without having to cut a trench. Yes, said Drew Patnode; Evergreen Landscaping works for Comcast and frequently installs wiring across roads by pushing a conduit under them.

Next, Doris Hanna asked if there were any updates on bike paths. Yes, Drew Patnode replied quickly; we are budgeting one million dollars a year for maintenance and improvements to existing paths. The DPW has an extensive dashboard that shows all paths and roads, which enables them to see at a glance what needs to be done and where. For instance, there is a plan for redoing Lovers Lane, Monohansett Road, and Okorwaw Avenue in the spring; this will provide an improved way from Surfside to the airport. Somerset Lane is to be rebuilt with better drainage and a bike path. Lee Saperstein mentioned that Winn Street, which is part private and part public, would be a great connector between Milk Street, which becomes Hummock Pond Road, and the Madaket Road and their bike paths. He asked if it is on DPW's radar. It is, came the reply, but not high. At present, they are working on a design for rebuilding Newtown Road to include a bike path. With respect to the Polpis Road corridor improvements, there is a MassDOT Zoom information session on January 25th at 6:00 pm

At this point, Henry Terry asked about Old and New Business; was there any? Just as the conversation turned to donations, Anne Terry asked about the fate of the Main Street fountain that had been demolished by a vehicle. Drew Patnode answered very positively. The fountain will be restored and paid for by insurance. The broken parts have gone already to the company, Cassidy Bros. Forge, Inc. of Rowley, Massachusetts, that restored it the last time; they have the necessary experience along with original design plans, spare parts, and molds for casting new parts. Originally a fountain for horses, the restored fountain may be connected to a water line so that its original purpose may also be restored. The DPW is considering ways to protect it that respect the location and the fountain's history. Most likely, there will be an opportunity for the public to submit ideas.

Henry Terry and all the members present thanked Drew Patnode for his very informative presentation.

V. Old Business.

Asked by Henry Terry if there was any old business to discuss and there was none.

VI. New Business.

With respect to New Business, the conversation quickly turned to repeating the Association's donations to the Atheneum and the Nantucket Food, Fuel, and Rental Assistance program with the same amounts as last year. The Treasurer's Report attached to the February 28, 2023, minutes wrote that the Atheneum received \$500.00 and the Assistance Program got \$300.00. Anne Terry made the formal motion to make these gifts, Mary Anne Easley seconded, and the vote was

unanimously in favor. Incidentally, last year's report showed a payment of \$240.00 in dues to the Nantucket Civic League.

VII. Adjournment.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Anne Easley, seconded by Anne Terry, and approved unanimously; the meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.

***Next meeting will be on February 27, 2024. It will be hybrid with an in-person meeting in the Atheneum and a virtual one via Zoom; if one uses Zoom, the address is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87455121153>.**

Lee W. Saperstein, Secretary, saperste@mst.edu.

DRAFT

JANUARY 23, 2024, TREASURER'S REPORT:

Available Balance at last report: \$ 3,994.87 on 10/22/23

Dues Received	\$ 00.00	through PayPal
	\$ 90.00	checks

Total Income	-----
	\$ 90.00

Expenses:	\$ 15.00	Commonwealth of Massachusetts Annual Report Fee
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PayPal Fees:	\$ 0
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Balance as of 01/23/24:	-----
	\$ 4,069.87

9 members have paid their 2024 dues so far
2023 had 53 paid memberships
2022 had 49 paid memberships

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Longacre, NTA Treasurer

