



NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION MEETING

January 25, 2022, at 4:00 pm

Meeting held by Zoom conferencing

DRAFT MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Attendance (Participants as noted by Zoom): Trish Bridier, Mary Anne Easley, Frances Karttunen, Mary Longacre, Craig Muhlhauser, Gail Norton, Hillary Rayport, Bill Seay, Lee Saperstein, Anne Terry, Henry Terry, Charley Walters, and Paula Williams.

Thanks to the Atheneum, Janet Foster, for hosting the meeting. which was recorded and the link to YouTube is included here:

Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/jAe-NVhdibQ>

Guest: Brenda Johnson, Communications and Project Coordinator, Our Island Home

I. Call the January 25, 2022, 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, to avoid conflicts with the Open Meeting Law, there would be no discussion of the Nantucket Town small area plan because members of that working group are in attendance at today's meeting and no agenda for it has been posted.

II. Approval of minutes of the Meeting of November 16, 2021.

Henry Terry asked for approval of the minutes of the meeting of November 16, 2021. Paula Williams moved approval, Mary Anne Easley seconded, and the vote to approve was unanimous.

III. Treasurer's Report.

Anne Terry, Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's report, attached; she reminded members that we have begun a new calendar year for which annual dues can now be paid. The report shows dues received of \$120.00, and expenditures of \$165.00, leaving an end balance of \$3,634.86. A motion to approve was made by Paula Williams, seconded by Lee Saperstein, and approved

unanimously.

IV. Old Business.

The survey of attitudes toward spas and hot tubs is under development and close to being ready for distribution. The intention is to gather opinions from residents of Nantucket Town that may be shared with town administrators and, potentially, be the basis of a report from the Association.

V. New Business.

Mary Longacre reported that the Madaket Conservation Association had obtained its own Zoom license and that a version of Zoom Pro was on sale until the end of January at a 30-percent discount. She asked if the Nantucket Town Association wished to have its own Zoom account. If yes, was there sufficient budget to cover the annual costs? Henry Terry said that his personal thought was that he was happy to use the Atheneum's account but would put the item on next month's budget. Mary Longacre also asked if the Atheneum was willing to hold open hearings.

VI. Guest Presentation: Brenda Johnson, Communications and Project Coordinator, Our Island Home (e-mail: OIHOutreach@nantucket-ma.gov)

Henry Terry introduced Brenda Johnson by saying that she will report on new developments at Our Island Home, OIH. She said that, after 45 years at the Nantucket Cottage Hospital, including helping with planning, design, construction, and moving to a new building, the Town asked her to coordinate planning for a new OIH facility. She is hopeful that she can persuade Town voters to move in favor of a new facility to be located at Sherburne Commons. In 2021, the Town chose this site as the most favorable location for a newly built OIH. Should it become reality, the old building on West Creek Road would be re-purposed as the new home for the Saltmarsh Senior Center.

She continued with the fact that the current facility has 45 beds, which number will be reviewed by the State in the event that we build a new facility. The current occupancy averages around 30 residents; do we need all 45? That question can be answered by a demographic projection of need and by an expansion of purposes served by OIH: hospice, memory-care treatments, geriatric psychiatric evaluations, etc. She is working toward getting input from organizations on Island that work with the elderly; she believes that staff members from these agencies would benefit from collaboration for education and training. Clearly, a new OIH could provide for adult day care that provides respite for in-home care givers.

The current facility was built in 1980 and no longer meets patients' needs nor conforms to published standards on care facilities. She has toured the building and spoken with residents. One person showed her the bathroom attached to the room and pointed out that it was not wheelchair convenient; there was insufficient clearance to move the chair around in the bathroom. She is meeting with staff members to find out their needs for performing their assigned tasks. She knows that residents want private rooms with attached bathrooms. She is hopeful, particularly if OIH moves to Sherburne, that OIH will be able to share services with other agencies. For

example, a flexible respite room could serve alternatively as a room for contemplation and meditation.

She stopped at this point and said that she would be happy to answer questions. Mary Longacre asked if day care meant adult day care and the answer was, "yes." Brenda Johnson went on to say that the social model of adult day care could be paid for by Medicaid but that Medicare would disallow that cost if it was already supporting in-home care. Mary Longacre said that her parents were unable to return to Nantucket because of the fragmented nature of nursing care on the Island. Trish Bridier looked for clarification of the statement that Brenda Johnson was working on two related issues. The answer was voter approval for the site and funding for planning and design of a new OIH. Mary Anne Easley asked about progress on these and the answer was that the word was spreading. Brenda Johnson has met with staff at the Nantucket Cottage Hospital, OIH, patients at OIH, members of the OIH Work Group, Friends of OIH, and the Nantucket Council on Aging. She has met also with Saltmarsh Center staff and members of related Town departments including the IT Department. She looks for citizens' input and her e-mail address, OIHOutreach@nantucket-ma.gov is located prominently on the OIH web page on the Town's web site. She said that good advice comes from respondents, for example the benefits of loop technology for the hard of hearing.

Gail Norton asked if she understand correctly that Medicaid had more benefits than Medicare. Yes, was the response but it must be remembered that Medicaid, which is funded primarily by the State, is only available to patients who have spent down their entire resources to \$2000 or less. Lee Saperstein noted that he had looked after a patient who was on Medicaid and the demonstration of need was rigorous. Bill Seay asked again about cooperation with the Saltmarsh Center and the response was that they have been great; they badly need a new facility.

Brenda Johnson said that she has read the three major reports on aging on Nantucket and commends them to us. References are listed on the attached page. She said also that the Nantucket Center for Elder Affairs, which supports the Saltmarsh Senior Center, has worked with ReMain Nantucket to develop grants for seniors to modify their houses as well as respite scholarships to provide care givers with a moment of relaxation. Mary Anne Easley, Chair of the Nantucket Council on Aging, said that the contract is ready for signature and, once signed, will be publicized.

Before calling for a motion to adjourn, Henry Terry reported the deaths of Peter Louderback, long-time member and officer of the Nantucket Town Association and Mona Wheatley, long-time friend of the Association.

Charley Walters asked if the numbers in the Treasurer's Report on dues paid to the Nantucket Civic League meant that the Town Association had 30 members and Henry Terry agreed.

At this point, Trish Bridier moved adjournment, Mary Longacre seconded the motion, and all agreed.

VI. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

***Next meeting is February 22, 2022, and will be via Zoom unless a decision to hold an in-person meeting is made; more information will be forthcoming with the next agenda; if one uses Zoom, registration is available at the following address:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwrcOCsqj0iH9CoJJCY4FXOdz-tHfyyBrX>.

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

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REPORTS ON AGING ON NANTUCKET

1. SK Advisors & Rabig Consulting, "The Future of Eldercare on Nantucket," 3/23/2016, 97 pages. Found on January 26, 2022, at URL: <https://records.nantucket-ma.gov/WebLink/ElectronicFile.aspx?docid=122510&dbid=0&repo=TownofNantucket>.
2. Peter A. Morrison, "Our Island Home's Future: A Demographic Perspective," December 8, 2015, 8 pages. Found on January 26, 2022, at URL: <https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11637/Our-Island-Home-Future--A-Future-Demographic-Perspective-PDF>.
3. Coyle, Caitlin and Mutchler, Jan, "Aging on Nantucket: A community needs assessment" (2018). *Center for Social and Demographic Research on Aging Publications*. 22. <https://scholarworks.umb.edu/demographyofaging/22>.

NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report

Jan 25, 2022

Beginning Balance		\$3,679.86
Deposits		
Dues	120.00	
Expenditures		
Annual Dues to NCL	150.00	
Filing fee to state	15.00	
End Balance		\$3,634.86

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