



NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION MEETING

February 22, 2022, at 4:00 pm

Meeting held by Zoom conferencing

DRAFT MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Attendance (Participants as noted by Zoom): Trish Bridier, Barbara Cohen, Carol Cross, Mary Anne Easley, Frances Karttunen, Mary Longacre, Bill Seay, Anne Terry, Henry Terry, Barbara von der Groeben, Charley Walters, and Paula Williams.

Guests: Janet Forest, Atheneum, and Sheila Lucey, Nantucket Harbormaster

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

Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/C928tMjmdVU>

I. Call the February 22, 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 January 25, 2021.

Henry Terry asked for approval of the minutes of the meeting of January 25, 2021. Trish Bridier moved approval, Bill Seay seconded, and the vote to approve was unanimous.

III. Treasurer's Report.

Anne Terry, Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's report, attached. The report shows dues received of \$485.00, no expenditures, and an end balance of \$4,119.86. A motion to approve was made by Mary Longacre, seconded by Trish Bridier, and approved unanimously.

IV. Guest Presentation: Sheila Lucey, Harbormaster

In introducing Sheila Lucey, guest speaker, Henry Terry said that Old and New Business items would be deferred until after her talk so as to let her return promptly to her busy schedule. Sheila Lucey, Nantucket's Harbormaster, is in charge of Nantucket's water highway and marine parking lot. She will talk about the functions of her department and answer questions afterwards.

Sheila Lucey began by describing her department and then detailing things that they work on and things that will be new in 2022. Attached to the minutes is an outline of her talk. The major topics on which she spoke are listed here and detailed in the attachment.

- The department is centered at the Town Pier and located in the Marine Department Building.
- It is part of Nantucket's Police Department.
- Its Primary Missions are:
 - Search and Rescue,
 - Fire Fighting,
 - Oil Pollution Response,
 - Aids to Navigation,
 - Mooring Enforcement,
 - Life Guards,
 - Town Pier,
 - Pump Out Program, and
 - Beaches.
- New in 2022:
 - Town Pier Reconstruction,
 - 34 Washington Street, support at Town Meeting for funds to rebuild the headquarters would be greatly appreciated,
 - Beaches
 - Lifeguards,
 - Beach Access and erosion,
 - Ladies Beach to have lifeguards.
 - Pump Out Program to get second boat.
 - Aids to Navigation: Coast Guard survey to determine shifts in shoals over the winter.
 - Miscellaneous:
 - Hiring a new Assistant Harbormaster to be in charge of beaches and lifeguards,
 - Dinghy permits, and
 - Research eco-friendly moorings.

She ended at this point and asked if there were any questions. Both Henry Terry and Mary Longacre thanked her for her comprehensive report. Frances Karttunen asked about Brant Point Lighthouse and its deteriorated condition. The response was that it badly needed to be repainted and restored to a better condition. The Coast Guard, who maintain it, have told her that the presence of toxic materials means that a specialist must come first to make it safe. Sheila Lucey added that, when she was in charge of Brant Point, they made a point of re-painting it and it took only three days to do. She knows that it needs

work and has been urging the Coast Guard to get it done before the season begins. They have acknowledged that it is high on their list of priorities. Henry Terry asked if the renovations at Town Pier would include raising the deck to accommodate future high-water storms and tides. No, replied Sheila Lucey, but we are rebuilding the wave attenuation structure up wind from the pier so that it will be protected better from nor'easters, which come down the harbor as if they were in a funnel pointed right at Town Pier. With no other questions, Henry Terry thanked Sheila Lucey for her excellent presentation.

V. Old Business.

Henry Terry announced that the survey of residents in the Residential Old Historic District, also those in the 'Sconset Old Historic District, was underway. This survey is to determine attitudes toward the presence of spas and hot tubs in these districts and also to get information on, if they remain permitted, acceptable sizes and volumes. The survey can be completed on-line but does need a pass code to complete it. The code is on a post card sent to each resident. Members are encouraged to complete the survey, the results of which will assist the Association in a determination of support for the warrant articles on spas and hot tubs.

VI. New Business.

Henry Terry started the discussion of New Business by reminding members that the Town Association had donated money in the past to the Atheneum in recognition of their support for Zoom meetings and for use of their rooms when live meetings were available. He thought that a donation in 2022 was in order; Treasurer Anne Terry spoke in favor also and suggested an amount of \$500. Bill Seay asked if this was the amount given previously. Yes, said Henry Terry; it once was \$250 but had been increased in recognition of the support given to the Association by the Atheneum. The motion to donate was made by Mary Longacre, seconded by Bill Seay, and also approved unanimously.

Henry Terry then reminded the group that Mary Longacre had suggested earlier that the Association should acquire its own Zoom account. Given the floor she explained that we used Zoom heavily and should be in charge of our usage. We could offer our account also to other Area Associations and the Civic League. A subscription is needed to obtain the professional version of Zoom. Bill Seay said that he deeply appreciated the ability to meet by means of Zoom and was in favor of any move that kept us attached via Zoom. He did ask if we knew how much it would cost, to which Henry Terry offered to research cost and to bring it back next meeting for a vote.

Henry Terry then discussed an issue raised by several members, namely the ability to pay dues electronically through the web site. Treasurer Anne Terry said that she preferred the accounting simplicity of cash and checks and was uncertain whether our volume of dues payments was worth the cost to set it up and for each transaction. Mary Longacre reminded the group that electronic funds transfers, EFT, were different from paying on line through the web site. Bill Seay said that most of his bills were paid now by credit card. Further, he thought that on-line

payments might encourage swifter payments of dues and even charitable donations. Mary Longacre agreed and then said, in response to Henry Terry's question of whether he could encourage a volunteer to research this issue, that really only the Treasurer would have the knowledge needed to do this research and that a starting point would be the Association's bank. He then offered to continue to research this form of payment and Mary Longacre offered to bring it up at Civic League Executive Committee meeting. There were no other comments and questions and Henry Terry suggested that a move to adjourn was in order.

At this point, Trish Bridier moved adjournment, Anne Terry seconded the motion, and all agreed.

VI. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

***Next meeting is March 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-tHfyynBrX>.

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

NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

FEB 22, 2022

Beginning Balance	\$3,634.86
Deposits	
Dues	485.00
Expenditures	0.00
End Balance	\$4,119.86

DRAFT

HARBOR MASTER'S OFFICE

Notes from Sheila Lucey
For a talk to the Nantucket Town Association
February 22, 2022

- We have 3 full time employees. We have 70 Seasonal Staff...55 Lifeguards and 15 Dock Staff..
- All of our admin is handled by NPD
- We have 7 boats, 6 buildings and 14 floats and docks
- We manage the 100 slip marina at Town Pier and 1800 private moorings
- Our Primary Missions are:
 1. Search and Rescue
 - We provide inshore search and rescue
 - We are the primary response for the Harbor, Head of the Harbor and Polpis Harbor
 - We are the sole response for the west end: Madaket, Tuckernuck and Muskeget
 - We assist in off shore SAR when requested
 2. Firefighting
 - We provide primary waterside firefighting response. The Coast Guard is no longer in the firefighting business
 - Most of the waterfront infrastructure is made of wood which requires our equipment to be in excellent condition. We have high capacity pumps and train regularly.
 3. Oil Pollution Response
 - We have in depth oil pollution plan for the island
 - We conduct annual drills with our partner agencies. We practice deploying different boom types and testing the plan.
 4. Aids to Navigation
 - We maintain about 100 buoys in Nantucket Harbor, Polpis Harbor and Madaket.
 - Buoys are registered with the Coast Guard and NOAA
 - They are required to be in the water from 15 June thru 15 September
 5. Mooring Enforcement
 - There are 2200 private moorings and 125 rental moorings
 - We work with 8 mooring handlers in 11 mooring fields
 - We ensure that the moorings are legal, boats are registered and registered in the State of MA and that they have been inspected within 3 years.
 - We have an online mooring system for the administrative parts of moorings.

6. Lifeguards

- We guard 9 beaches from 1 July thru Labor Day
- Our program seems to grow every year. We keep on call lifeguards on for after hours and we have lifeguards roaming the beaches until 15 October.
- We are USLA certified.
- We host a Junior Lifeguard Program for 13-15 year olds to enhance our program with Nantucket kids that know the waters better than anyone.

7. Town Pier

- We maintain the Town Pier, floating dock and dinghy docks
- Town pier hosts cruise ships, transient commercial F/Vs and transient recreational vessels.
- Our heads, trash and recycling facility are the only ones that people on the waterfront have access to.

8. Pump out Program

- We pump out approximately 25,000 gallons of product annually with the boat and the pump out at the end of the dock.

9. Beaches

- We maintain the Town owned beaches and are responsible for the beach access signs.
- We have 2 ATVs that are dedicated to our beach maintenance crew.
- We install the ramps and clean the Town owned beaches from July thru labor day.

New in 2022

Town Pier

- The town pier was damaged during two storms. One at the end of September caused damage to our floating docks which were still in place, and the fixed pier was damaged during the blizzard on January 29, 2022.
- The fixed pier sustained damage to the wave fence, one section of the dock is missing, and one section of the dock is buckled. We anticipate all will be repaired, in place, and we will be open by mid-May as usual. We are trying to use contractors that are already on island to save on mobilization costs to do “band-aid” repairs to get us through the summer. We are hoping the major pier project can begin in the fall, we are currently waiting on permits from the Army Corps of Engineers.
- Slip lottery was held in October, there was a conversation about changing the process, however the stakeholders and board of selectmen chose to continue it the way that it’s always been done. We had many people apply so all slips will be filled.

34 Washington St.

- The building at 34 Washington St. desperately needs renovations or a new building. The bid came in overpriced forcing us to go back to town meeting and ask for more money.
- We respectfully request your support in this project. The building needs to remain on the water side of the street because we need to respond to emergencies such as boats sinking, boat fires, medical emergencies, etc. If the building was across the street it would cause major backups on Washington St. because hundreds of people would be crossing the street all day long which will turn Washington St into a parking lot.
- Washington St is not a scenic highway and we need to remain on this side of the street for operational reasons.
- Our restrooms are used by hundreds of people per day. Cruise ship launches tie up at our dock, we have the only dinghy dock on island, the restrooms are used by the cruise ship, people on moorings, people on rental moorings, people from the anchorage, guests at the town pier, and the general public.
- Our building/restroom is the gateway for people that come to Nantucket by water, therefore our building is the first impression of Nantucket Island for the people that arrive by boat.

Beaches

- In the summer of 2021, we guarded over 400,000 people, beaches were as busy as we have ever seen them. We responded several calls to non-lifeguarded beaches so we are currently considering guarding Ladies Beach which will require an additional 5 lifeguards and more equipment. This will greatly enhance public safety and shorten our response time.

- We had 16 confirmed shark sightings where we had to clear the water, which is an increase from years past.
- We are in the process of hiring lifeguards, we have been extremely successful in recruiting. We have received 95 applications to date.
- We are still unsure what we're going to do about housing but we are trying to figure that out.
- Our Junior Lifeguard program is paying off, we are getting more locals to apply which will help with our housing issue.
- We plan to revamp our beach access program due to significant erosion that has made previously accessible areas inaccessible.
- We are currently in the process of renewing our programs' USLA certification for the third time and remain the only small town USLA certified Agency in the Northeast.

Pumpout Program

- We have extended our pumpout service to 12 hours per day, 7am-7pm.
- We will be getting a second pumpout capable boat for this summer.
- We have initiated a dye tab program for boats at anchor, on moorings and at the Boat Basin.

Aids to Navigation

- We will work with US Coast Guard per usual, to get an overflight to survey how the shoals have shifted this year so that we can ensure that we are marking the shoals correctly and providing the mariner best water.
- We're hoping to start setting the buoys late April/Early May once we have repaired the town pier.

Miscellaneous

- We are planning to hire another Assistant Harbormaster within the next month to be in charge of beaches and lifeguards.
- We began a dinghy permit program because The Monomoy Association requested it, so you will be seeing ads in the paper about that.
- We're continuing to audit the mooring fields to ensure mooring holders are in compliance.
- We're continuing to research eco-friendly moorings
- We are in the process of hiring our seasonal staff, working on interviews, and trying to get as much done as we can and as this weather permits.

Any questions?