



NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION MEETING

June 25, 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, Trish Bridier, Mary Anne Easley, Lee Saperstein, Bill Seay, Anne Terry, and Henry Terry.

Attendance by Zoom: Paula Williams. The Zoom link was <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87455121153>.

Guests: Mike Burns, Transportation Program Manager.

Thanks to the Atheneum, Sammy Aguiar, for hosting the meeting. which was recorded and the link to the video is included here: <https://youtu.be/ReJM8ocJciE>.

I. Call the June 25, 2024, Nantucket Town Association Meeting to Order.

President Henry Terry called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. He then gave the regular warning that no Town Area Plan subjects would be discussed at this meeting.

II. Approval of minutes of the Meeting of May 28, 2024.

Henry Terry asked for approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 28, 2024; Trish Bridier moved their approval, Anne Terry seconded them, and the vote to approve was unanimous.

III. Treasurer's Report.

In Mary Longacre's absence, Henry Terry gave the Treasurer's report, which is attached. The starting balance was \$3,844.16; after expenses were deducted, the ending balance was \$3608.16.

The Treasurer's report was accepted upon a motion made by Anne Terry, seconded by Trish Bridier, and approved unanimously.

IV. Old Business.

There was none.

V. New Business.

Henry Terry recounted that Gail Walker of Nantucket Lights has asked that he announce that the outdoor lighting bylaw is now in effect. Their web site, <https://nantucketlights.org/>, has a lot of information about lighting at night and includes a useful guide.

VI. Guest Speaker. Mike Burns, Transportation Program Manager.

Henry Terry then introduced Mike Burns, Transportation Program Manager, who went on to say that he had only one formal item to discuss and hoped then that there would be a lot of questions.

He began by stressing Nantucket's bike safety initiative that included stickers for the helmet that said "Brain Bucket, 2024" and electric-bicycle, class-identification stickers. The helmet stickers carry this year's date and are color coded to match annual vehicle stickers. He hopes, he said, that people will collect the stickers to adorn their helmets. Lee Saperstein asked if they were printed on reflective stock and was told that they are shiny but not truly reflective. Plans have been made already for next year's version to go on reflective stock.

The bicycle stickers identify the e-bike's class, where class 1 and 2 bikes are allowed on side paths, but not in-town sidewalks, and are limited to 20 miles per hour, mph. Class 1 e-bikes are human-powered, i.e., pedaled, with an electric motor assist, while Class 2 are essentially electrically powered with a human assist. Class 3 e-bikes may travel up to 28 mph and are not allowed on sidepaths; essentially, they are electric mopeds. E-bikes are registered in schools if they are to be parked on school property. In response to a question about required registration, Mike Burns said that there is a bylaw that requires licensure and a registration plate for all Nantucket bicycles, Chapter 57 of the Town's Code, but that it has not been enforced. He passed out stickers for all to take, particularly if they have a bicycle at home. Use of these stickers is voluntary but he hopes that every bicycle rider will put one on their helmet and each of their bicycles. Additional stickers are in his office, the police station, and every bicycle shop on Island. Trish Bridier asked that if Class 3 bicycles must go on the road, do they need license plates and must their riders be licensed. No, replied Mike Burns to each part of the question, but that he believes that the State is working on a system of licensure.

- Henry Terry then suggested that it was time to open up the discussion to questions and he had the first one. He asked if Mike Burns could review the status of transportation projects, which was readily accepted.
 - The intersection between Milestone and Polpis Roads will be reconfigured into a "tee" junction, which is safer than the current "wye." The design has been reviewed by the Nantucket Historical Commission, NHC, and work is scheduled for next fall.
 - The project on Lovers Lane for drainage improvement and a sidepath is close to the opening of a request for a bid.
 - The proposal to make a section of Pleasant Street, namely between Williams Lane and Five Corners, one-way has been discussed with the NHC also. A trial of the scheme is proposed for this fall. The current roadway will have one traffic lane dedicated to pedestrians and bicycles with the other retained for motor vehicles.
- Peggy Altreuter asked about the implications of the proposed mid-Island commercial development on the road network. Mike Burns replied that he was certainly aware of the proposal and he was waiting for the Planning Board's approved plan before considering road changes.
- He added that the plans for redeveloping the Milestone Rotary are well underway as is the plan for installing a rotary at the intersection of Nobadeer Farm Road with the Milestone Road.
- Trish Bridier asked if Amelia Drive was to be re-built, to which Mike Burns said that the voters had turned down a warrant article for this. He hoped to see it returned to a future Town Meeting.
- Paula Williams asked if any thought had been given to alleviation of the traffic problems on Gardner Street. Yes, it had but that opinions about

what to do were split among abutting home owners and Town officials with the outcome being that no change is the current proposal. Lee Saperstein suggested that, in the narrowest parts of the road, the utility poles should be moved away from the road surface so that wide vehicles could go up onto the sidewalk without losing their outside mirrors. Mike Burns went on to say that crash data reveal that side-swipe accidents are abnormally higher on Gardner and India Streets.

- On a positive note, he said that electrification of the NRTA bus fleet has been very successful as has electrification of the fleet of Town vehicles. Part of the NRTA, aka Wave, success has been the experiment for free travel. In that this experiment is supported by an one-time federal grant, it is uncertain if it will be extended. Meanwhile, though, ridership is up substantially. Trish Bridier asked where the buses are recharged and was told at the bus parking lot on Bunker Road.
- Bill Seay wanted to know the schedule for the Nobadeer Farm Road project and was told that design could take up to two years and construction up to another two.
- Returning to the Pleasant Street project, Mike Burns said that the first step is interaction with the property owners who abut the proposed one-way segment. Lee Saperstein said that in previous years, the Committee on Roads and Right of Way had been told that the owner of 57 Pleasant Street was okay with granting an easement for a sidewalk that would go around the existing trees, which are against the roadway.
- Projects for bicycle paths along Tom Nevers and Wauwinet Roads are further out in time.
- Peggy Altreuter noted that the bicycle path along the Milestone Road ends at its intersection with New Street and this causes a safety problem as bicycles and pedestrians try to get to the proper side of the street at that point.
- Mike Burns commented that the “speed feedback” signs are helpful but they do not include speed cameras, which are not legal under State law.

With no further questions, Henry Terry thanked Mike Burns who, in turn, said that additional questions were always welcome. Henry Terry then asked for a motion to adjourn and Anne Terry accommodated, with Trish Bridier seconding, and all voting aye.

VI. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 pm.

***Next meeting will be on July 23, 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.

June 25, 2024, TREASURER'S REPORT:

Available Balance at last report: \$ 3,844.16 on 05/28/24

Dues Received: \$0.00 through PayPal
\$0.00 checks

Total Income: -----
\$0.00

Expenses: \$236.00 Annual PO Box fee

PayPal Fees: \$0.00

Total Expenses: -----
\$236.00

Balance as of 06/25/24: \$ 3,608.16

44 members have paid their 2024 dues so far
2 members have paid in advance for 2025
2023 had 54 paid memberships

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Longacre, NTA Treasurer