

Minutes Approved on May 21, 2009

Eastham Forum Meeting Minutes

3PM – 4:10PM, April 16, 2009

Eastham Police Conference Room

The meeting was brought to order by Peter Markunas.

In attendance: Jerry Gibson, Vivien Cook, Walter Sebastian, Al Sette, Bob Mumford, Loretta Neilsen, Jeannie Cole, Vida DeMale and Peter Markunas

Introduction of Tom Johnson and discussion by Tom Johnson on the Warrant Article for purchasing Orleans Water for the Town of Eastham, and introduction of Howard Sandler from the Eastham Planning Board, and discussion by Howard on the two Windmill Articles. Only 10 minutes will be allotted for each discussion, as we have a full agenda, and need to discuss those articles under new business.

Both Tom Johnson and Howard Sandler were introduced and briefed the board on warrants that they would be presenting at Town Meeting. Johnson in regards to an alternative water plan, Sandler on the Windmill articles.

Review of Minutes of March 19th 2009 Board Meeting

Last months meeting minutes were presented and accepted by the board.

Secretary's Report and appointment of new Secretary

There was no report by the secretary. Suzanna Goemaat had resigned her position previously. The position is vacant. The board discussed the possibility of selecting a candidate during the meeting. A candidate did not come forward, however, Walter Sebastian volunteered to take notes during the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Nothing significant to report by Al Sette. He did comment on requests for re-imbusement for Word Processing software for creating of the newsletter. Informed all to send him the receipts for expenses and such and he will re-imburse

New Business

Discussion of the Two Town Articles on Water. At the March meeting the Board heard from Sandy Baynes regarding the Selectmen's Article for the Town Meeting Warrant for a Water Study. The Board needs to decide whether to take a position on the two articles, i.e., the Selectmen's Article vs. the Johnson Article, and if so how to present their findings to the Community.

Peter Markunas suggested that the board back one of the water proposals. Vivien responded by commenting that the Forum board exists to communicate both sides of an issue and we are not in a position to support any of the articles. Walter Sebastian commented that insufficient time is available to analyze an issue and suggested that time outside of the meeting needs to be used. Both Peter Markunas and Bob Mumford agreed.

Discussion of the Two Windmill Articles. The Board needs to decide wheter to take a position on the Articles for the Windmills. If so, the Board needs to decide how to present the findings to the Community

A similar discussion revolved around the windmill articles. Vivien commented that we need to ensure that we are not injecting personal opinion into the discussion of any of the issues. Peter Markunas agreed.

Eastham Forum Newsletter. Ron Edson will report on the status of the Newsletter and present articles to the Board for Comments. Hopefully all

articles, except the findings and recommendation on the Water Articles will be available. Timing and assistance needed for Ron Edson will be discussed, volunteered or assigned, in order to get the Newsletter out in time for Town Meeting.

Ron Edison presented the layout of the spring newsletter. A request was made to include Bob Mumfords summary of the key articles of the warrant. Ron stated that is was too late and indicated that the web site would be the appropriate venue for the information. Walter Sebastian noted that he would ensure that the articles are posted on www.easthamforum.org as noted in the newsletter.

Candidates Night. The Board needs to evaluate the upcoming Town Elections and determine whether to sponsor/co-sponsor a Candidates Night for contested seats.

Both Vivien and Loretta suggested that we host a candidate's meeting at Town Hall. Vivien volunteered to host the event and notify residents via the appropriate communications vehicles, i.e. Cape Codder.

Eastham Forum Expenses. The Board needs to come up with a straight forward policy on handling the Directors out-of-pocket expenses in doing their duties and responsibilities.

This item was covered during the Treasurer's report as noted above.

Old Business

Interim President. The Board needs to discuss the appointment of an Interim President to act as President until the Fall Annual Meeting.

Loretta suggested that Peter Markunas fill as Interim. Peter accepted.

By-Laws Update. The Board should consider establishing a three member committee to develop a full review of the By-Laws for necessary or functional updates to be presented to the Board for consideration.

This item was not discussed.

Time and Date of Board Meetings. It appears that 3pm on the third Thursday has been working in the past. However, two new Directors have potential conflicts. The Board needs to discuss with those members, i.e., Bob Mumford and Ron Edson, potential time and dates that better would insure their availability to attend the meetings.

This item was discussed and after some discussion was to remain as is.

Other Business

Loretta raised the issue of supporting Nauset students with a scholarship. Loretta will coordinate via Nauset guidance counseling.

Loretta closed the meeting on behalf of Peter who had to leave early.