

Summer Residents Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, July 2, 2013

Present: Ham Clark, Phil Moriarty, Charlie Merriman, Jamie Clark, Jan Russell, Kathe McCoy, Temple Grassi, Averel Wilson, Lanie Lincoln, Callie Brauer, Rick Wheeler

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am

Ham Clark greeted everyone and reviewed the agenda. He then welcomed Phil Moriarty and Averel Wilson as our two new Board members.

Lanie Lincoln gave her membership report. She passed out a list of returned invoices to see if anyone had updated addresses on these people. The list needs to be updated and vetted. Lanie asked that members please send address revisions to Don Graves, the new chair, and to Ham. If there are names of people who should be on the list, please send them to Don. To date we have 264 paid members for a total of \$6,600. In addition, we have 93 donations ranging from \$15-\$250, totaling \$5212.00. We will not publish the list of donors. A reminder letter will go out shortly to those who have not paid. That notice will be sent to summer addresses. SRA is not a 501C3 organization, so donations are not tax deductible. In the past, our membership has been up to 350.

When dates have been confirmed for the July and August meeting of the membership, posters will be put up at the local clubs inviting people to join. We can also pass out letters and envelopes to Board members so they can pass them out to friends who might be interested. It was noted that a personal approach is better than a more public one in gaining new members.

Jan Russell made a report of the Nominating Committee. She distributed a list of classes of the board members. Three Board members will be rotating off this year. The Nominating Committee will meet to discuss the list of potential candidates and make a recommendation to be presented at the August Board meeting. There were many names discussed of potential candidates. The Board discussed the qualities we are looking for in new Board members, those being candidates from a younger generation as well as candidates representing geographical diversity. We want to make sure Somesville, Seal Harbor, etc are represented. It was also discussed whether or not we need someone with certain skill sets to assist the consultant into the future. We need the final three candidates identified by last week in July so we have time to approach them. We need to approve those who will begin their second term.

July 15th is next Selectman's meeting at the Fire Station in Seal Harbor. One of the big issues on the agenda is quarrying.

Next agenda item is financial report given by Charlie Merriman. Currently there is \$12,700 in the checking account and \$105,630 in the Vanguard. This represents a 10.99% increase. Kevit Cook did a great job picking the funds as they have done very well. Our Capital account currently has a balance of \$118,300, an increase of \$18,800 from 12/31/12. Of this increase,

\$9,525 is appreciation in the Vanguard account. The balance of the increase, \$11,837, is from dues and gifts through 6/30/13 less \$2,562 of expenses. All funds are liquid. We have committed \$25K toward the consultant, if the town also commits. At some point we need to add this commitment to our balance sheet as a liability. Accounting services listed on the report is the cost of Debbie DeJulio's time at \$3,000 per year.

Status of hiring an Economic Development Coordinator: A Steering Committee has been formed with Ham Clark and Kathe McCoy included. Sam Shaw is on the committee as well as Matt Hart, Head of the Chamber of Commerce, Durlin Lunt, Martha Dudman, and selectwoman. The Committee met and created a warrant that was on the ballot in early May. Warrant committee recommended against it, but those in attendance at the Town meeting overwhelmingly approved the warrant 85-7. The town has agreed to spend \$25K for an Economic Development Coordinator and SRA has committed the match those funds. With the fiscal year of the town beginning July 1st, it is unclear when the Coordinator will begin; Advertising has been put out to a large network. 11 people applied for the position. Interviews have been conducted and the pool was then narrowed down to 3 candidates. Currently, the committee has made its selection with final details currently being hammered out. The position will be 20-30 hrs per week. It will come in under budget, so hopefully the extra funds will go to marketing. It was a comprehensive process and the choice is a very enthusiastic candidate. Hopefully the deal will be closed in the next week with the consultant starting Sept 1.

A question was raised as to whether or not the Coordinator will address housing issues on the Island. The candidate will have a one-year contract with the option to renew. It would be great to have the candidate spend time in town to get to know the different town committees, issues, etc. Ham will email us when the candidate contract has been finalized.

There was a brief discussion of the mission and work of the Island Housing Trust and the work they are doing on the Island.

Vacant lots on Main St:

141 Main St lot: Nancy Ho is of the opinion that the plan is still alive but needs work.

Tan Turtle property: for sale

Thistle Brown lot was purchased for \$200K by John and Joanna Boynton. The Boyntons have several ideas of what to do with the property in line with what the Island Housing Trust and what Bob Ho had in mind. He is looking for help and some funding to help with the process. He wants to call the property "Thistle's". He is thinking office space and retail.

We will ask the new Economic Development coordinator to come to our August meeting to speak to the group

There was an issue last winter regarding the garage in Seal Harbor. Ham put out a position statement. He did receive some negative feedback, so we need to be aware that there may be some misunderstanding out there about the mission of the SRA.

The Board gave a round of applause for all the work Kathe and Ham have put in to this effort.

Kevit Cook has a proposal for the SRA. That would be the creation of a Development Trust for the town of MDI. It would be a new 501C3 organization that could assist in some of the shortfalls of the economic developments on the Island. The idea needs structure and to see if there is interest. He would like it to be a \$5 million project. It was discussed that this group should be separate from the SRA but collaborative. This should be in conjunction with the new consultant who could continue to have a comprehensive view of all the organizations on the Island.

Janneke Neilson sent a letter to Durlin Lunt last summer suggesting the town buy the Kimball lot and turn it into a park. Ham and Kathe will call Janneke to pursue her ideas.

Future dates for full membership meetings: July 24th (Wednesday) location to be decided. August 22nd. Ham will get back to us to finalize. 4:30 – 6pm.

August date for Board meeting: August 8th – Thursday 8:30 am

Other new business: We need to encourage people to come to the 24th meeting to announce the new consultant and hear about this person's job. Ham has asked Martha Dudman to speak at the July meeting. Durlin will also be there.

Town meeting approved \$25K for improved signage in and around NEH. Sam Shaw has designed a prototype. Katie Bell and Sydney designed another option.

With no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05