

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
JULY 1, 2013  
TOWN HALL  
7:00 PM**

Board Members Present: Julie M. Hannum, Chairman  
Rene C. Wood  
Edwin J. Dobson

Others Present: Rhonda LaBombard, Town Administrator  
Jill Hughes, Town Hall Clerical Assistant

Members of the public

Chairman Hannum called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

Selectman Wood moved to approve the minutes from May 20, 2013, June 3, 2013, June 12, 2013 and June 17, 2013 meetings, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

**SHEFFIELD FOREST – JAMES KELLY**

Forester James Kelly was present to discuss maintaining the Town forest lands. There are grant funds available to pay for the program. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the Board to work with Mr. Kelly on the grant applications to maintain all of the Town forest lands.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

Selectman Wood moved to appoint the following:

Bruce Howden, James Larkin and James Kelly to three year terms to the Agricultural Commission

Martin Clark to a one year term as Animal Control Officer

Sandra Preston and Robert Pasqualina to three year terms to the Ashley Falls Historic District Commission

Tammy Blackwell to a three year term to the Board of Assessors

seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Dobson moved to appoint Rene Wood to a one year term as Berkshire Regional Planning Commission Delegate Alternate, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried 2-0, Selectman Wood abstained.

Selectman Wood moved to appoint Priscilla Cote and Scott Smith to a two year term on the Board of Health, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hannum moved to appoint David A. Smith Jr. to a two year term to the Board of Health, the motion died for a lack of a second. Selectman Dobson moved to Rene Wood a two year term on the Board of Health, seconded by Chairman Hannum. The motion carried 2-0, Selectman Wood abstained.

Selectman Wood moved to appoint the following:

Marjorie Consolini to a three year term to the Board of Registrars

Bruce Person and James McGarry to a one year term as Constable

Kathleen Staropoli and David A. Smith Jr. to three year terms on the Council on Aging  
Trudy Weaver Miller and David A. Smith Jr. to three year terms to the Cultural Council  
Laura Grunfeld to a three year term on the Commission on Disabilities  
Edward McCormick to a one year term as Emergency Management Coordinator  
Patricia Elsbach, Kathy Orlando and Jeffrey Waingrow to three year terms on the Historical Commission  
Kevin Joyce and Grace Campbell to three year terms on the Park and Recreation Committee  
Felecie Joyce to a one year term as Parking Clerk  
Christopher Tomich to a one year term as Planning Board Alternate  
Justin Biasin and Daniel Hamill to a three year term as Reserve Intermittent Police Officers  
David Steindler to a one year term as Recycling Coordinator  
John Arthur Miller to a three year term as Senior Center Director  
Kopelman and Paige to a one year term as Town Counsel  
D. Moschos to a one year term as Special Town Counsel  
Edward Lord to a one year term as Tree Warden  
Laurie Hils to a one year term as Veteran's Agent  
Greig Sedor to a one year term as Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate  
seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood moved to appoint the following inspectors to a two month appoint to allow for discussion on the new on-line permitting program:  
Richard Cappadona as Electrical Inspector  
Robert Krupski as Plumbing and Gas Inspector  
Robert Gennari as Assistant Plumbing and Gas Inspector  
seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Wood moved to appoint Trudy Weaver Miller to a three year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried 2-0, Chairman Hannum abstained.

Selectman Wood moved to appoint the Local Emergency Planning Committee by position as follows:  
Board of Selectmen Chairman  
Town Administrator  
Police Chief  
Fire Chief  
Building Inspector  
One member of the public  
seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Graham Frank and Andrew Carlson – Reserve Intermittent Police Officers  
Joseph Wilkinson – Park and Recreation Committee  
Gail Mullin – Commission on Disabilities  
John James – Ashley Falls Historic District Commission  
Edwin Dobson – Agricultural Commission Alternate

#### **IMPROVING TOWN COMMUNICATIONS:**

Chairman Hannum stated that a letter was received from Benno Friedman regarding proposed ideas for improved public communication. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the Board to research this issue further and discuss feasibility again at a meeting in August.

**KINDRED GREAT BARRINGTON ROAD RACE/PORCHLIGHT CNA PROGRAM BENEFIT:**

John Krol, race coordinator spoke about the 8 mile race scheduled for Sunday, August 25, 2013, which will start at 8:00 am in Great Barrington and go through Sheffield. A police officer will be hired by race officials to direct traffic at the Route 7 crossing. Selectman Wood moved to approve the road race as presented, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

**LODGING HOUSE LICENSE APPLICATION:**

The Board reviewed an application from David LeBeau, 119 South Main Street, for short term lodging on weekends July-October, no food served. A discussion ensued. Selectman Wood moved to approve the application pending approval of the Building Inspector, Board of Health and the Fire Chief. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPOINTMENT BOARD OF HEALTH INSPECTOR:**

The Town's Food Inspector has retired and the Board has received one application in response to the ad placed in the newspaper. Administrator LaBombard and Chairman of the Board of Health, Priscilla Cote met with Laura Kitross of the Berkshire Public Health Alliance to discuss inspections as needed. A discussion ensued. Selectman Wood moved to appoint Berkshire Public Health Alliance to provide health inspector services as needed, seconded by Selectmen Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

**RANNAPO ROAD UPDATE:**

Administrator LaBombard informed the Board that one lane of Rannapo Road is closed due to the riverbank caving in. MEMA and Mass Highway are working with the town for funding solutions. There is an on-site meeting scheduled for Wednesday morning. Administrator LaBombard will keep the Board informed.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR ITEMS:**

Administrator LaBombard offered congratulations to her assistant Alicia Powers on her marriage.

Administrator LaBombard stated that Berkshire School submitted a donation in the amount of \$50,975.00. It was the consensus of the Board to send a thank you letter.

Administrator LaBombard and Selectman Wood hosted a meeting with representatives from BRTA, Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, Town of Great Barrington and the Town of Egremont regarding bus transportation services for all residents. Residents are encouraged to contact the Town Administrator's office to discuss their transportation needs.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Catherine Miller read a letter from Dennis Sears regarding the Anti-SLAPP Actions, which deals with threatening lawsuits against municipal employees.

Peter Cherneff states that a suit had been received regarding the building permit for 666-670 North Main Street and requested that the Board seek advice from Town Counsel. Discussion ensued.

David West stated that the Town has maintained forest lands in the past.

David A. Smith Sr. requested that the Board allow Planning Board direct access to Town Counsel. It was the consensus of the Board to take the request under advisement.

Susan Butler read a portion of her letter regarding miscommunications and will finish reading the letter at the next Board meeting.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

The Board reviewed an application for an Antique & Second Hand Goods license from Gallery 315 Home Furnishings. A discussion ensued. Selectman Wood moved to approve the permit for an Antique & Second Hand Goods license for Gallery 315 Home Furnishings, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectmen Wood moved to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations and to not return to open session, seconded by Selectmen Dobson. The motion carried as follows:  
Chairman Hannum-Aye  
Selectmen Wood-Aye  
Selectmen Dobson-Aye

Selectman Wood moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Selectman Dobson. The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Hannum adjourned the meeting at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Hughes  
Town Hall Clerical Assistant

Documents reviewed at this meeting:

List of FY 2014 Appointments  
Benno Friedman's letter  
Road Race letter of explanation  
Lodging House application  
Antique & Second Hand Goods application