

Wareham Beach and Tourism Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
April 14, 2015

A special meeting of the Wareham Beach and Tourism Committee was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Bruce Hutchins. Also present were members Linda Burke, Cheryl Bagangan, Frank Gay, Peter Teitelbaum, and Judy Caporiccio, and approximate 30 guests.

Mr. Hutchins welcomed attendees and explained the purpose of the meeting.

Mr. Teitelbaum said the committee was established in October, 2013, in order to make recommendations regarding promotion of the town and enhance tourism. He said the work of the Beach and Tourism Committee to date has included the creation of a DiscoverWareham.com website (which was on display at the front of the room) and exploring options for future activities. He then introduced Rep. Susan Williams Gifford.

Rep. Gifford said that while the Commonwealth is very supportive of tourism and recognizes it as an important element of economic development, the state is "in a fiscal crisis" and unlikely to be able to fund broad tourism activities in the near future.

Rep. Gifford introduced Paul Cripps, executive director of the Plymouth County Convention and Visitors Bureau, encouraging attendees to use Mr. Cripps as a knowledgeable resource.

Mr. Cripps provided an overview of the role of the CVB and explained that in Plymouth, a committee representing private business and others was established to advocate specifically for the town. He noted that he serves as the executive director of both the county organization and the town one, an arrangement that is more efficient and cost-effective. He recommended that private support be solicited for marketing projects, and that a private committee establish a track record of success with smaller projects, with matching funds from the county CVB.

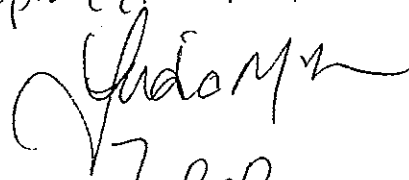
In the future, he recommended strongly, the work should be coordinated by paid staff instead of volunteers.

Mr. Hutchins then introduced Randy King, general manager of TownPlace Suites by Marriott at Rosebrook, who noted that the community had been very welcoming and supportive of the new hotel, and invited attendees to tour the facility following the meeting.

On a motion by Mr Teitelbaum, seconded by Ms Caporiccio, the committee voted to adjourn at 9:40 a.m. (6-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Burke  
Clerk

Approved 5/1/2015  
  
7-0-0