

Meeting of January 14, 2003  
Minutes

FEB 24 2003  
TOWN CLERK

Members present: Thomas Flynn, Chairman, Sylvia Smith, Clarence Smith, Thomas Peters (clerk). Bill Walton, Town Shellfish Constable, attended the meeting.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

1. The members first considered, and subsequent to a spirited discussion, voted 3-0-1 to accept the draft minutes of the committee's meeting of November 15, 2002 as printed.

#### CORRESPONDENCE & NEW BUSINESS

1. The members reviewed a letter dated Dec. 21, 2002 from Roger Putnam (Selectman) to Emily Beebe (Health Agent) concerning Burton Baker Beach. The letter assured the recipient that the "Selectmen have the public interest at heart."
2. The members discussed a meeting with the Audubon Society of Dec. 19, 2002 and a related letter dated Nov. 25, 2002 from Emily Beebe to Rex Petersen (Assistant Town Administrator "ATA"). The topic of both was public access to the shore on Lieutenant Island.
3. The members reviewed a memo dated January 6, 2003 from the ATA to the Committee and others. The memo solicited support and comment on a proposed article for Town Meeting. The article would ask for \$20,000 to fund an inventory of Town owned property. The Chairman and the clerk are to communicate the members' strong support of this proposed warrant article to the ATA and the TA.
4. The members were apprised of a request by the Town Administrator for the submission (by January 24, 2004) of any articles seeking the transfer of land. Apparently, this topic arises from an initiative to transfer town-owned land on Grove Avenue (perhaps, the former Baker property, so-called) and identified as lot #36-288 (or, maybe, lot #36-289).
5. The members voted unanimously to accept and ratify as printed the Calendar Year 2002 Annual Report of the Coastal and Pond Access Committee. Although submitted a few days late, Ms. Jeanne May of Town Hall staff accepted this report.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Members considered the Town landing at the end of Meadow Avenue, which is at the SW corner of Lieutenant Island. Apparently the Audubon Society wishes to block Meadow Avenue in order protect or enhance avian habitat in the vicinity. However, the impact of that action might preclude practical access to newly licensed shellfish areas off town owned land (lots #170, #171 and # 183). There was a vigorous discussion. Among the concerns mentioned was a need to maintain public access for bathers, boaters, and recreational shell fishing activity. Consequently, those activities prompted concern over access by emergency vehicles. Apparently, the ATA proposes a \$4,000 survey –or, in the alternative, a \$400 survey- to better demarcate the lawful access with an unobtrusive fence and, perhaps, boundaries or monuments. Members were in favor of the ATA's proposals. The Chairman and the clerk are tasked to communicate the members' views to the ATA on this topic. The members plan a field trip to this locale on Friday, January 17, 2003 at 1:30 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, February 11, 2003 at the Council on Aging.

The members thereupon voted to adjourn at about 9:05 PM.

The members voted unanimously (4-0) to accept the minutes printed above at the Committee's posted (rescheduled) meeting of February 21, 2003 at Town Hall.

Thomas Peters, Clerk