

**GRAND ISLE SELECTBOARD MEETING
MINUTES of
Tuesday, July 7, 2020 via Zoom**

I. CALL TO ORDER: Diane Cota, Chair calls the meeting to order at 6:00PM

Board Members Present: Diane Cota-Chair, Jeff Parizo-Vice Chair, AnnaMarie DeMars, Rachael Griggs and Adam White

Community Members Present: Todd Boutin-Grand Isle Fire, Melissa Boutin, Amy Thompson-Grand Isle Rec., Eoana Sturges, Ron Bushway and Mike Donoghue

Amend Agenda for Matters Not Listed: New Business - Education Tax Rate

II. GUESTS: Amy Thompson-Recreation Department Chair

- **Port-A-Lets Returning to Park:** Amy Thompson asked if there is any kind of update. The State Park has their Port-A-Lets open. Adam said the State is following CDC guidelines which is to have them cleaned a minimum of once a day. At the State Parks they are cleaned more than once a day and not sure how others are getting cleaned.
- **Town Land Ordinance Signage:** Amy said they would like signage at Donaldson Park and Marycrest Beach stating no smoking is allowed. Everyone agreed.
- **MOU of Town/Rec. Dept:** Amy said the Rec. Dept. is interested in getting some updates done at the park such as the floor at the pavilion paved and would like to know who is responsible for what Rec handles and what the Town handles. Rachael suggested the Rec. Department gets a list of things and submit it to the Selectboard to review. Then we would meet and review to decide who is responsible for each item.
- **Responsibilities at Park:** Ties in with MOU.
- **Trees/Brush Clearing at Donaldson Park:** Amy said they are so very happy with the clearing of trees and brush and sends a big thank you Ron who said Brad Sheridan did the work. Rec. is planning to get a tree service to discuss removing more trees.
- **Marycrest Beach Buoys and Steps:** Amy said they would like to have a set of steps and a ramp with railings going down to the beach. These would have to be able to be removed each fall and reinstalled each spring. As for buoys it was discussed maybe they should be installed to keep boats and jet skis out of the swimming area. South Hero Rec. has offered to donate a case of buoys and Amy will contact them. Carry in-carry out Signage was suggested. Trash left on the beach was discussed. Jeff said he doesn't think a lot of money should be spent on that road. The new owners of the property on the north end of the beach said they don't mind people using a part of their beach but want them to remove trash. They also wanted to know if the public can park on the side of the road on their property or if they can put signage there as well.

Adam said the town of North Hero has a deal where North Hero residents can access Alburgh Dunes State Park, Knight Island State Park and Sand Bar State Park for free, the recreation committee has a deal with the Vermont State Parks where the recreation committee pays the day fee use. He asked Amy if anyone has looked into the Region Three State Parks. Amy said she will look into Region Three State Parks. Grand Isle residents are allowed to use Whites Beach but must buy a sticker.

Jeff said So. Hero uses our Transfer Station and we get revenue from them. They buy a sticker and we also charge them to bring their trash.

Amy said she has to leave and asked to be added to the next Selectboard agenda.

Todd Boutin – G.I.V.F.D. Chief: Todd said he has a few things to ask.

1. Todd said he would like permission to use a small amount of weed killer in the stone ditch to keep the weeds out. He also would like the lawn care person to mow a strip of grass on the back side of the ditch. The grass is tall and he worries if kids are riding a bike, they may not see the ditch and fall into it. Ron said he is ok with Todd using a minimal amount of weed killer. The Selectboard all agree as well.
2. Todd would like to again put the old fire truck they use at Christmas back in the old fire station. He would also like to have a key to the old station to get the truck and put it back. Ron said there is highway stuff in there and he is fine with Todd having a key. Todd said he would be responsible. Adam said as long as the Road Commissioner is ok, he is fine with it as well. The Selectboard agreed.
3. Todd said the old training trailer at the Transfer Station has become a danger and would like to tear it down and replace it with a 40 or 45-foot shipping container. They would tear the old trailer down and fix the shipping container for a safe training site for the department. Ron said he would get together with Todd and Brad and decide the best way to dismantle the trailer. No objection from the Selectboard.
4. Todd wanted to give a big shout out to those who put on the Town fire works for the 4th. They did a great job in a safe way. Diane thanked Jeff as he was a part of it too.
5. Todd also asked permission to put a BBQ pit between the trees and the memorial bricks. He said they have a lot of stones left over from the building of the station that would make it look good and will match the station. The Selectboard agrees.

III. Highway Department Update: Ron Bushway, Road Commissioner reported the blacktop is finished on Reynolds and Hyde Roads. The entrances to driveways have been re-graveled. Still needs to do some side dressings of the two roads. They have hauled a lot of stone for the new garage site. The Auto Car was out for service and did quite a bit of work on the chloride tank which was upgraded so they can operate it from inside the cab now.

Buildings Facilities Manager Update: Ron Bushway, BFM reported he and Andrew put up a plexiglass at the Town Office. Rachael mentioned the Annex lease for FY2021 between the Town and Learning center has been signed by Selectboard Chair, Diane Cota and Learning Center owner Elaine Chasse.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES: June 15, 2020
Jeff Parizo motions to approve the minutes of June 15, 2020. Adam White seconds the motion. No further discussion. All vote in favor and the motion passes.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

Possible July 20 SB Meeting @ Town Office via Zoom and Further Opening of Office:
Diane said she would like to discuss this with Melissa. We would like to hold the next Selectboard meeting, July 20th at the Town office with just the Selectboard present and via Zoom. No public in attendance. Melissa said she is ok with it but she would attend via Zoom. We would all be wearing our masks. She said if we are all distancing six-feet apart we can take the masks off. If we can't safe distance the masks go on. We will need to disinfect everything we touch before we leave. The Board agrees. Diane said the topic will mostly be the Personnel Policy. She has sent the policy to the Board members to review and make notes before the meeting.

Education Tax Rate: Diane wanted to tell people the Homestead tax rate for residents is 1.6126 and for non-residents the tax rate is 1.6285. The increase from last year is about a 10-cent increase. Jeff said it's for education and there is nothing we can do about it.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

Free Metal Day: Ron said they are still discussing it but it looks like it will be Saturday, July 18 this year.

Burn Permit Warning Letter (to residents at corner of Rt. 2 and Faywood Rd.): Rachael asked Ron if he sent out the warning letter to the people living on the corner of Rt.2 and Faywood who burned a sofa and did not call for a burn permit. Ron said the Board had asked him to go visit them. He said he tried 6 times and no one answered the door. He will try once more and if he can't see them, he will send them a warning letter.

New Town Garage and Salt Shed: Jeff said the new garage is moving forward. He will be doing a once a month update to the Selectboard. The architect firm is handling all the communications for any change orders and keeping track of expenses. The building is going quickly. He said it's become too much for him and doesn't want to hold them up. Randy Gover, who has experience in construction and commercial construction will now be the Clerk of the Works. He's not asking for any pay. Randy said he lives here and wants to make sure we get a good garage. He has made a connection with the architect, the GC, Dave Pratt and the excavating company and they are looking forward to working with him. He has already made changes that makes the building better.

As for the Salt Shed, the cost for the concrete alone is over \$180,000. Right now, it isn't attainable to do.

Melissa said that Peoples United Bank is working on all the documents for the new garage that the Selectboard needs to sign off on. It's already been approved by the voters and it needs to be in the minutes that the Selectboard approves and signs off on it. She asked if we could have a special Selectboard meeting to approve and sign it. It was agreed to have the special meeting via Zoom on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 1:00PM.

Sheriff Allen's County Wide Special Events Meeting: Wrenegadesports Bike Tour (Brief Discussion): Diane said Sheriff Allen wants to have a meeting in August and invite the South Hero Selectboard. Wrenegadesports is planning a bike tour for September 5, 6 and 7th. Rachael will forward the email from Wrenegadesports to Melissa and Mike Donoghue.

VII. REVIEW AND SIGN WARRANTS: Jeff Parizo motions to allow the chair-person of the Selectboard to sign the warrants via email. AnnaMarie DeMars seconds the motion. No further discussion. All in favor and the motion passes.

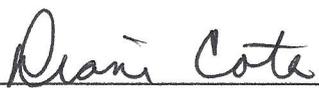
VIII. ADJOURNMENT: Adam White makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:08PM. No further discussion. All vote in favor and the motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,



Rachael Griggs, Selectboard Clerk

Date: July 20, 2020



Diane Cota, Selectboard Chair

Date: July 28, 2020

07-07-2020