



Town of Nantucket Finance Committee

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Committee Members: Denice Kronau (Chair), Stephen Maury (Vice-chair), Joseph T. Grause Jr., Peter McEachern, Joanna Roche, Peter Schaeffer, Chris Glowacki, Jill Vieth, George Harrington

MINUTES

Monday, January 10, 2022

This meeting was held via remote participation using ZOOM and YouTube.

Called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Ms. Kronau

Staff in attendance: Brian Turbitt, Director of Finance; Mariya Basheva, Financial Analyst; Ken Beaugrand, Real Estate Specialist; Terry Norton, Town Minutes Taker

Attending Members: Kronau, Maury, Grause, Roche, Schaeffer, Glowacki, Vieth, Harrington

Absent Members: McEachern

Documents used: Draft minutes as listed; Citizen Warrant Articles for 2022 Annual Town Meeting.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion **Motion to Adopt as drafted.** (made by: Maury) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 8-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Grause, Maury, Vieth, Glowacki, Roche, and Kronau-aye

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS

II. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

1. November 16, 2021 (joint meeting)

Motion **Motion to Approve as drafted.** (made by: Maury) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 7-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Glowacki, Maury, Vieth, Glowaci, and Kronau-aye; Roche reconnecting

2. December 9, 2021

Kronau - Page 3 under Rayport should read Fritz McLure, not Chris

Motion **Motion to Approve as amended.** (made by: Maury) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 7-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Glowacki, Maury, Vieth, Glowacki, and Kronau-aye: Roche reconnecting

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. None

IV. DISCUSSION ARTICLE L

1. Bylaw Amendment - Gender Equality on Beaches - Dorothy Stover

Discussion **Stover** – Read the article which would allow any person to be topless on a beach on Nantucket. Until the 1920s, all men and women had to be fully clothed on Nantucket beaches; that’s when it changed to women had to cover their breasts. She wants to return to gender equality.

Maury – Asked if she’d accept a friendly amend requiring men to be covered.

Stover – She did discuss that with Town Counsel; if men can no longer be topless, that would provide gender equality.

Grause – Asked if it’s a Town or State ordinance prohibiting women from baring their breasts.

Stover – Currently, it’s a Massachusetts law that any female 5 or older can be fined and possibly put on sex offender list for baring their breasts. There are about 6 states where any person can be topless in public.

Grause – He thinks it’ll be an article that would have a strange debate; there are people who don’t care, and some will be all wound up about it.

Schaeffer – Asked about the current status on the beaches.

Stover – Miacoment Beach is an unofficial nude beach; it's an understanding. She hasn't been able to find out when that started. She hasn't heard of anyone getting a summons for being nude on our beaches.

Roche – Wonders if there's an accompanying budget; how would it be posted and who would pay for signage.

Stover – For finances it would be the cost of rewriting written and on-line references and educating police officers. Doesn't think there needs to be signage. Some other states that allow public nudity are Wyoming, Colorado, Utah; a few other states are debating the issue of public toplessness. She's proposing this just on beaches.

Grause – You're proposing a bylaw amendment; if there's a state law, asked if it would have to go to the State and could they block it.

Stover – If it passes at Town meeting, it goes to the Attorney General; if he passes it, it would be just for Nantucket. There are no beaches in Massachusetts that allow public nudity; Towns have tried, and it hasn't passed. This is not about full nudity.

Schaeffer – Asked if the Town has that and if this creates a problem that doesn't exist.

Stover – The Town tried to get a full-nudity bylaw before, but it didn't pass the State. Among herself and women she's spoken to, the issue is women aren't able to be topless on a beach when men are. This is an issue of equality.

Roche – Asked if there is any precedent at any U.S. ocean-front community.

Stover – She'd have to research other ocean-front communities.

Vieth – She's confused because on one hand, you're saying you want equality; on the other, you're willing for everyone to be covered.

Stover – For her it's about equality; her first choice is equal toplessness for all.

Kronau – If on the floor someone wanted equality with everyone covered up, that could go forward as long as the Moderator decides it is within the scope of the intention of the Article.

Grause – If we make a positive recommendation, that might imply the committee supports this; a take no action would not stop it from being discussed and passing at Town Meeting.

Kronau – Wishes there was a fourth choice that this is outside the purview of FinCom.

Harrington – He agrees that it doesn't belong in this committee; it primed for Town and Town Meeting. He supports the idea of take no action.

Glowacki – Asked if there was any mail on this.

Kronau – Not in respect to this topic. Closed the public comment portion.

Schaeffer – He doesn't think someone's nudity on a beach has ever been an issue; he's concerned this Article could make it an issue. Suggested it could read "equity for all genders." That would be regardless of where.

Roche – In the context of the beach scenario, there is no fairness; there is an equity issue. It concerns her that by taking no action or not adopting, the Town supports inequity. Also, she thinks there will be some cost to this even if only marginal costs.

Vieth – She support take no action and letting people debate this on the floor.

Motion **Motion to Adopt.** (made by: Maury) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 8-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Grause, Maury, Vieth, Glowacki, Roche, and Kronau-aye

V. PUBLIC HEARING AND DISCUSSION OF CITIZEN WARRANT ARTICLES FOR 2022 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING (ATM)

1. Z Appropriation - FY23 Community Preservation Committee - Ken Beaugrand

Discussion **Beaugrand** – This year, CPC made total allocations of \$3.5m. The funds we received in November were based upon prior allocations of \$1.74m. It will go in undesignated reserves for future allocations. This year's allocations are \$1.403m to historic preservation, \$975,000 to community housing, and \$1.85m to open space. We recommend approval in full.

Schaeffer – Asked who manages the money once it's distributed.

Beaugrand – We don't give out the money. The recipient spends it and comes back for the reimbursement; we then check how the money was spent to ensure it complied with the scope of the agreement.

Kronau – Asked about the Benjamin Drive buildings.

Beaugrand – Those are Habitat for Humanity (H4H) homes; they will be the first H4H homes to be SHI eligible. Explained the Pickleball project and that it will be available to anyone.

Motion Motion to Adopt. (made by: Grause) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 8-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Vieth, Maury, Grause, Glowacki, Roche, and Kronau-aye

Motion Motion to Open for revote. (made by: Glowacki) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 8-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Grause, Maury, Vieth, Roche, Glowacki, and Kronau-aye

Motion **Motion to Adopt.** (made by: Roche) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 7-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Maury, Vieth, Roche, Glowacki, and Kronau-aye; Grause recused

2. AA Appropriation - Community Preservation Committee for Affordable Housing Trust - Ken Beaugrand

Discussion **Beaugrand** – This is a \$5m bond to create a Land Trust. Material presented to Capital Program Committee (CapCom) indicates funding is necessary to facilitate meeting housing needs to maintain and sustain Safe Harbor. The Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF) has voted to support this.

Kronau – She would have liked to see that it is going to a specific project.

Beaugrand – In the data presented to CapCom, the information shows the areas of projects involved, amounts allocated to each, and utilization of funds.

Kronau – The \$5m would be allocated to actual projects with deliverable dates. There have been several transactions for buying land; she wonders when we'll see the ribbon cutting on those housing units.

Beaugrand – There are 24 separate units to be available this summer for occupancy.

Turbitt – He recalls that to the extent possible, there are a few acquisitions of land to go to housing or apartment units; those might or might not need additional funding. All discussion around this \$5m has been to create housing, not buy land.

Vieth – Tucker Holland has a working document showing how the money will be used; that might be helpful to review before voting for this. It all seems to be going back to the AHTF.

Glowacki – Agrees about seeing how all the pockets of money are being allocated. He'd hate the message to be that CPC money is free money when it comes from our taxes.

Grause – There is H4H money in Article Z; he should have recused from that vote. This has money earmarked for Habitat; he should recuse from this vote.

Kronau – She wants to hold off on the vote until we get the document with the specific information about where the \$5m will be use. Invited Mr. Beaugrand to come back on January 27th.

Motion No action at this time.

Roll-call Vote N/A

3. BB FY 22 Community Preservation Committee Budget Transfers - Ken Beaugrand

Discussion **Beaugrand** – This is \$3,000 returned from the Atheneum for restoration; they were able to do the complete restoration for under budget. The funds will go back into the historic preservation fund. A number of projects will be completing in the coming year with excess funds coming back into the funds.

Motion **Motion to Approve.** (made by: Schaeffer) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 8-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Grause, Maury, Vieth, Roche, Glowacki, and Kronau-aye

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 1. Capital Program Committee: Vieth
- 2. Contract Review Committee: Roche
- 3. Coastal Resiliency Advisory Committee: Roche

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE/ADJOURNMENT

Date: Thursday, January 13, 2022; 4:00 p.m.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

1. None

Adjournment

Motion **Motion to Adjourn at 5:09 PM** (made by: Roche) (seconded)

Roll-call Vote Carried 8-0//Harrington, Schaeffer, Grause, Glowacki, Maury, Vieth, Roche, and Kronau-aye

Submitted by:

Terry L. Norton