

FREEMAN'S REPORT ON THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF MAY 12, 2013

Note: (1). These are not official minutes -- -- just notes taken by me. Official minutes will be available from the Town Office and will be posted on the Town web site and at the Town Office and other places following Board approval at the next meeting.

(2). If anyone wishes to stop receiving these reports, they may simply hit "Reply" and request to be deleted from the list or say "Unsubscribe."

(3). Reports of earlier meetings and some supplementary materials are available at my Town Meeting website:

www.singingbridge.net

THE MEETING: There were five members of the public present. The minutes of the meetings of April 22 and April 28 were approved.

MOST IMPORTANT/INTERESTING ITEM: In my judgment, the following item was the most important thing covered during the meeting.

The Selectmen were joined by most of the members of the Conservation Commission to discuss the Commission's recommendation regarding the Ipcar Nature Preserve. The recommendation was conveyed in a memo that had been distributed to the Board. The memo concluded with the recommendation that the Ipcar preserve not be harvested at this time and said that if that recommendation is accepted, the Commission will develop a Safety and fire management plan for the Preserve.

The memo also made two points: (I) The Commission still believes that a regeneration harvest (Option 3) is still the best way to provide a healthy forest in the long run; and (ii) The Commission accepted the "overwhelming" public sentiment in favor of letting nature take its course that was expressed at the public meeting on April 24.

~~The Selectmen voted 3-0 to accept the recommendation regarding no harvest. The Selectmen also voted 3-0 not to have a fire hazard plan.~~

At the Selectmen's meeting of May 12, it was reported that the Selectmen had voted 3-0 not to have a fire hazard plan for the Ipcar Preserve. In fact the vote was 2-1 in favor of no fire hazard plan, with Geoff Birdsall voting against that motion.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mary reported on correspondence received. For a complete listing of this correspondence, see the Meeting Agenda at: www.georgetownme.com/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes.php

OLD BUSINESS:

1. There apparently has been concern about the condition of the pillars at the entrance and the need for a heat tape on the roof. It was decided that these matters are the responsibility of the School Committee.
2. The Selectmen accepted updates of the Emergency Management Plan.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Linda Lancz owns an undeveloped lot (13U-01) on the north side of Five Islands Road just north of the parking lot at the top of the hill. She had inquired whether the Town would be interested in acquiring it. The Selectmen voted 3-0 that they had no interest in this lot.

2. There were several resignations from Town Committees and appointments to fill vacancies:

Conservation Commission - Alternate Rosalie Paul resigned and Ruth Indrick replaces her;
Harbor Committee - Richard Start resigned and Alternate John Teller replaces him;
-Recreation Committee; Nancy Riggs resigned, Alternate Paul Morin replaces her, and George Jamieson replaces Morin as an alternate.

3. Regarding planning for the Tri-Centennial, Bill Plummer will represent the Selectmen. One member each will come from the Recreation Committee, the Community Center, and perhaps other committees.

UPCOMING DATES:

May 14, Municipal Budget Hearing - 7 PM

May 15, School Budget Hearing - 7 PM

June 3, Meet the Candidates Night - 7 PM

June 10, Elections - 8AM - 8 PM

June 14, Town Meeting - 9 AM

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, May 27 at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman

TWO CORRECTIONS TO RECENT REPORTS

There are two corrections to be made to recent reports of Town Business:

1. At the Selectmen's meeting of May 12, it was reported that the Selectmen had voted 3-0 not to have a fire hazard plan for the Ipcar Preserve. In fact the vote was 2-1 in favor of no fire hazard plan, with Geoff Birdsall voting against that motion.

2. In the Report of the Municipal Budget Hearing of May 14, it was stated that:

"Town Officer's Salaries: The FAC proposes a 3% increase to salaries across the board. They also propose a \$500 increase to Selectman stipends which haven't been changed for years. The total increase is \$101,292, a 2% increase."

The error is in the size of the reported increase in Town Officers' salaries. In fact, the increase was only \$1,552.

We regret these errors and thank those who pointed them out to us.

Rick Freeman and Rick Cliffe