

# MINUTES OF TOWN OF BERKLEY SELECTMEN'S MEETING OF 8/21/2019

SELECTMEN IN ATTENDANCE: George F. Miller, Chairman Heather Martin-Sterling, Clerk Wendy F. Cochrane, Member

TOPIC		ACTION
	Meeting Convened at 6:03 pm at Moitoza - Pettey Hearing Room, 1 North Main St.	
Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Minutes for June 24, 2019 – Regular Session.</li> <li>- Minutes for August 7, 2019 – Regular Session</li> </ul> <p>Meeting taken out of order</p>	<p>Motion to approve made by Cochrane, Sterling sec. Voted</p> <p>Motion to approve made by Cochrane, Sterling sec., Miller abstained Voted</p>
Personnel Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Board interviewed Mr. St. Pierre for the Maintenance position. Miller stated he went over St. Pierre's resume and that he had a lot of transferable skills. Miller asked why he was looking to get the job. St. Pierre stated it would be to supplement his income. Miller asked if he was looking for long term. St. Pierre said he was happy with the hours but maybe if the Town grows so would the hours. Miller questioned if he felt he would have any issues maintaining the property, St. Pierre stated he would not have a problem. Miller asked if he had any questions, St. Pierre said no and that he could start ASAP.</li> </ul>	Informational – No action taken
Appointments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Marge Ghilarducci and State Rep. Norman Orrall gave an update on the progress for Myricks St. recreation area. Ghilarducci stated she had meetings with several people and sent a letter to Stephanie Pollack at MassDOT. Ghilarducci welcomes letters of support from the residents of Berkley at either her email address (available by calling the Selectmen office at 508-824-6794) or at her home address Marge Ghilarducci, 724 Berkley Street, Berkley, MA 02790. Miller felt it was a good way to get something out of the situation since the Town is incurring so much and yet will be getting pretty much nothing. Rep. Orrall felt it was a nice concise list of requests. They stated it was suggested that maybe the South Coast Rail could use the area during construction and then fix it up once complete. Ghilarducci stated she found a match grant for trails. Miller asked if they got a 3<sup>rd</sup> party to donate the funds for the trail could they use those funds to be matched. Ghilarducci and Orrall believed so. Miller was thinking of using donated funds from one of the new marijuana establishments coming to Town. Orrall also stated they got another \$20,000 towards the Library that can be used for repairs. Cochrane told Ghilarducci if she had a list of upcoming meetings regarding the rec area she could forward them to her or the other Board members if she would like one to go with her.</li> </ul> <p>Please see Attachment 'A' for Ghilarducci's presentation at the end of the minutes.</p>	<p>Motion to write a letter of support made by Cochrane, Sterling sec. – Voted</p>

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Meeting Mail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Email from the Berkley Cultural Council regarding Heritage Day &amp; Bee Festival. The Cultural Council was looking for permission to put up signs at various places in Town for the event. A photocopy and description of the small signs were given to the Board for review.</li> <li>- Miller highlighted several points made in a letter from Joan Blake from Council on Aging. The letter addressed a few things that Blake wanted to address. She felt there was a lack of proper snow removal, disliked that the parking lot in the Common was not paved which on occasion would have puddles where the cars park, she wanted additional handicap designated parking spots for the seniors and a sign at the crosswalk. She also mentioned that when the seniors have an event and they take a bus to it TMLP or Verizon trucks at times are parked in the lot as well and are in the way. She also had several other complaints. Mr. Coutinho stated that a handicap spot cannot be designated to a specific group, but he would see what he could do about adding another spot. The Highway Surveyor stated he would see about a sign for the crosswalk. Cochrane stated that if the Board was notified in advance the night before they could in turn notify the Police Dept. and they could ask the trucks to move. Pertaining to the snow removal complaint, Cochrane stated that she sees both sides of it. However, if the Town Hall is not open on a Friday then the lot does not take precedence in the Highway Dept.'s plowing schedule. She stated that she feels if the Town Hall is closed due to safety reasons then the COA should also be closed. Sterling asked why the bus couldn't pick up the seniors in the Town Hall parking lot when they do have an event to go to as it would be easier for everyone. That they could park across the street and walk across like they currently do for other activities. Sterling also addressed another topic Blake brought up regarding the one way traffic out of the Town Hall parking lot. Mr. Coutinho suggested the possibility of the Highway Dept. painting arrows on the ground next time they are line painting.</li> <li>- Board received a letter of resignation from Joan Blake as Chairman of the Council on Aging Board.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion to approve made by Cochrane, Sterling sec. -- Voted</p>
Appointments Cont.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Highway Surveyor Robert Rose discussed the Ch. 90 request. He would like to finish the project since Freetown already finished their side on Bryant St. He also discussed the gift of a dump truck from Mr. Matt Thompson who once worked for the Berkley Highway Dept.</li> </ul>	<p>Motion to approve Ch. 90 made by Cochrane, Sterling sec. -- Voted</p>
Town Administrator's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Coutinho updated the Board on the Annual Town Report. He stated that Ms. Paradise and he will have it ready for print by the next Annual Town meeting. He also presented the Board with a draft of the Selectmen's report. Miller thought it was a great preamble. Mr. Coutinho also informed</li> </ul>	<p>Motion to accept the dump truck gift made by Cochrane, Sterling sec. -- Voted</p>

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Personnel  
Board Cont.

the Board that the Library exterior repairs were finished. He stated that Plan B did a great job and that they went above and beyond. They even came in under budget so they were looking to do a few more things inside but they can only do so much considering it is not handicap accessible.

- The Cable Committee inquired about a new position. Jillcen Solomon stated they are in need of someone for apx.15 hours a week at \$12,000 a year that would come from the Cable Committee budget and not taxation. \$15.38 an hour. Arleen Medeiros noted that they are looking for more board members. They have four and need three more, time invested is minimal but they could be more involved if they wanted. Anyone interested can contact the Selectmen's office for contact info or contact the Cable Committee via the Town website.
- The Board and Mr. Coutinho suggested reaching out to the other candidate for the maintenance position to see if they could reschedule his interview.

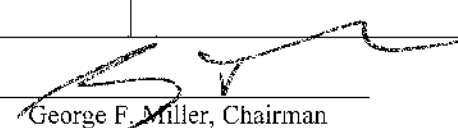
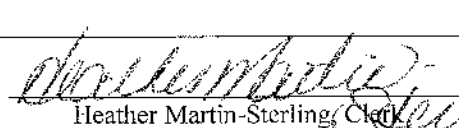
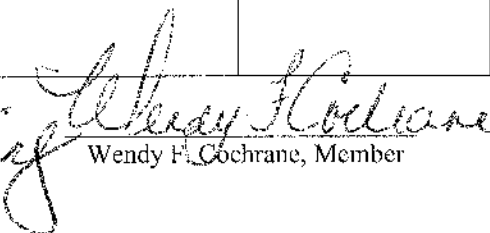
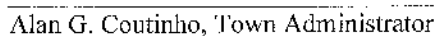
Motion to approve  
made by Cochrane,  
Miller sec., Sterling  
abstained – Voted

Informational – No  
action taken

Motion to adjourn  
made by Cochrane,  
Sterling sec. – Voted

Meeting Adjourn

Next Regular Meeting September 4, 2019

  
George F. Miller, Chairman  
Heather Martin-Sterling, Clerk  
Wendy F. Cochrane, Member  
Alan G. Coutinho, Town Administrator

Attachment 'A'

PRESENTATION TO BERKLEY SELECTMEN  
AUGUST 21, 2019

Good Evening,

Thank you for your time tonight. I am here to update you on the progress since you received a copy of my letter of June 25 to Stephanie Pollack, Sec of Transportation regarding the request for SC Rail to improve the St. Yves field.

On July 5, Andy Perry and I met with Rep. Orrall and his assistant to walk the ballfield and the Haskins Cemetery.

On July 19, Andy and I met with Sen. Pacheco.

On July 29, I met with Jean Fox, Project Coordinator, Rick Carey, SC Rail engineer, Rep Orrall and his assistant, Josh to discuss the part that SC Rail will play in the development of the St Yves field. I was told that there would be money for a SRPEDD feasibility study. Actually, we don't need a feasibility study as we already have a plan. What we need SRPEDD to do is to continue to work in partnership with the town and MassDOT to determine the extent of needed mitigation and arrive at a consensus about how to mitigate. I would encourage you to endorse that SC Rail underwrite the cost for SRPEDD Services.

To date, one of the most important endorsements of this project is a copy of a letter that I received from Brona Simon, Executive Director of MA Historic Preservation to Jean Fox, Project Coordinator of SC Rail. In her letter, Ms. Simon states:

*The BHC has also offered a list of local initiatives that are suitable for off-site mitigation of potential adverse effects on the Myricks Historic District. If adverse effects on the Myricks Historic District cannot be avoided and minimized through property relocation and other measures, then any draft mitigation plan should incorporate the BHC initiatives for appropriate mitigation of the adverse effects on the Myricks (Street) Historic District*

In brief, Ms. Simon's letter endorses the St. Yves project. This is the highest recommendation that we could receive from another State agency.

On August 14, I met with Grant King, Jed Cornock, Eric Arbeene and Bill Napolitano at their SRPEDD office. We discussed how SRPEDD could continue to work in partnership with both the town and MassDOT to determine what needs to be mitigated, how to make those investments, and

where I might apply for grants for completing the project. Basically, SC Rail, obtaining the proper environmental permits, preparing the property, doing some woodland clearing and putting in a trail from the St. Yves field to the Anthony Street field. This would require that South Coast Rail also receive the proper permits for a bridge over the wetlands along this proposed approximate ½ mile trail.

Because of the historic loss to the Myricks area, it is reasonable (under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966) for SC Rail to grant the request. And since I believe I can secure both in-kind services and grants for the final “amenities” to the project, I am offering a more than fair request.

On September 9, I will be meeting with the Berkley Athletic Association to get expertise as to what they would like accomplished for the St. Yves ball field as well as other recreational facilities on that acreage that would come under the BAA auspices.

It may be argued, but from what I have learned, there is no other town in this rail project, that is losing more (historically and otherwise) and receiving less than Berkley.

What I am asking you (Berkley Selectmen) give 100% of your support for this project. I am asking you to voice your support (both in writing to SC Rail and in public forums).

I have requested letters of support from all of the pertinent Berkley Boards and committees and am requesting a letter of support from your office as well. Copies of each letter will be mailed in a packet to Stephanie Pollack at MassDOT to show that the town of Berkley is fully behind this project.

I would also be happy to receive letters of support from Berkley residents. Letters can be e-mailed to me at (call the Selectmen's Office for email at 508-842-6794) or mailed to me at 724 Berkley St.

Thank you for your time.

(Next page is the list of what was in the request to Ms. Pollack)

#### REQUEST TO RESTORE MYRICKS FIELD PROJECT

1. Open the area so it is visible from Myricks Street
2. Restore, expand and upgrade the Myricks ball field.
3. Restore, expand and upgrade and night lighting the tennis courts. \*
4. Install a state-of-the-art playground and basketball court.
5. Add composite no-maintenance picnic tables and benches\*\*
6. Add walking paths that extend from the St. Yves field to the Anthony Street Complex
7. Improve the Haskins Cemetery\*\*

8. Install a kiosk with the history of Myricks (the rail, the industry and the homes)\*\*

This would bring a community recreational area to a section of Berkley that at this time has no such resources for Myricks families. We know that constructed properly, this will in the least show good will by the Commonwealth for the sacrifices that these families have to endure in perpetuity. We ask that you allow these families to feel a modicum of thanks and respect for them and their properties and acknowledge the penalty that they must pay for the good of the State. It will give these residents a long-term legacy and a perfect win/win situation.

\*That may be more than we would need

\*\*I also may be able to get grants from SRPEDD for such