

Wellfleet Non-Resident Taxpayer Association

Minutes

Board Meeting: Monday July 10, 2017

The meeting opened at 9:30 am at the Wellfleet COA.

Present: Lyra Campbell, Carmen Richkin, Martin Richman, Bob Sloane, Karen Goldberg, Susan Reverby, Jim Campen, Helen Birenbaum, Pamela Blau, Marian Palley, Frances Davidson,

Absent: Ellen Rothman, May Ruth Seidel, Gordon Kahn, Renee Zarin and Betsy Van Dorn.

Treasurer & Membership Report: presented by Francis. The WNRTA income is down this fiscal by about \$2000 compared to last year this time. General discussion regarding what could be done to support income growth. Communications generate WNRTA income. Suggestions included:

1. More electronic newsletters sent to our membership.
2. More visibility in the community regarding our organization and meetings.

An e-blast reminder will be sent out on July 12th for our July 13th meeting. Susan to draft the e-blast and send to Lyra for distribution.

A list of “bounced” email recipients was distributed to the Board. Board members asked to review the list and not any recipients that they can confirm as either moved, deceased or otherwise, who should be removed from the database.

Rental Tax Issue: The proposed room rental tax has passed. It is on the books and moving forward. Pamela shared information from a recent meeting in Brewster that the general consensus from stakeholders seems to be that the tax is needed, however it does need to be fair and progressive. There will be a State component and Local component to the tax. Jim added that local government will have some control over the amount taxed and enforcement.

Although it is on the books, it is not currently being enforced. Marian referred the Board to an article published in the Cape Cod Times dated April 24, 2017.

Martin shared his understanding of the collection of the tax at the State level with the towns receiving their option % distributed by the State to the towns at the rate levied.

Susan discussed her understanding that the tax had to be paid in order to obtain a Wellfleet beach sticker.

With so many unknowns, the WNRTA needs to watch this issue and see how it unfolds.

Marian has an upcoming meeting with Dan Hoort and will clarify as much as possible, and provide a report.

4th of July Parade: It was a fun parade with an enjoyable theme (Children’s books) and outstanding costumes. Payomet won the WNRTA trophy and were thrilled! Thank you to Susan for your exceptional work in organizing the WNRTA presence!

Some discussion regarding that lack of political presence that was requested in the initial registration. The Wellfleet Chamber of Commerce sets the guidelines for the parade, and it was understood this guideline was put in place to avoid contention.

Chamber of Commerce: The WNRTA is a member of the Wellfleet Chamber of Commerce. Martin suggested we request a 'spotlight' in one of the future e-blasts distributed by the Chamber. Marian will reach out to May Ruth to facilitate this request.

July Newsletter: Many interesting topics were suggested for inclusion in our Summer Newsletter including:

- Mayo Beach playground update
- current status of the Herring Run issue
- food truck zoning issue on Route 6

501 (c) update: Martin advised that the WNRTA is in good standing with respect to our 501(c) status and on track to consider proceeding with an effort to become a (c)3 for tax purposes.

New Business:

Susan will be attending an informal gathering of representatives of other lower Cape non-resident taxpayer associations. She requested suggestions on topics to include. Suggested were: organizing a non-profit umbrella organization; ideas to increase revenue; room rental tax issue.

Pamela will pick up meeting notices for our July 13th meeting from Marian's and post them.

July 13th meeting preparations were discussed including the need to ensure audio visual is functioning, volunteers arriving at 7 pm for set-up, a nominal food budget for snacks, Marian will bring cups and Carmen will bring Napkins. Susan has confirmed a number of interesting participants in our discussion panel for the evening including: Dwight Estey, Judith Cumbler, Rhonda Flaxman, Paula Vogle and Ann Fausta Sterling.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 with all in favor.