**Joint Board of Selectmen & Library Trustee’s Meeting Minutes**

**1/17/2017, 6:00pm, Rhodes Building**

**Present:** Library Trustees-Joan Levy, Greg Wardlaw, Gale Hubley, Garden Committee members-Cyd Reiman & Richard Seelig, Conservation Commission Chair-Dana MacDonald, Kestrel Trust-Kat Deely, Town Clerk-Kathy Martell, Select Board members Bill Martell & Alisa Pearson, & Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant-Susannah Carey.

**Open:** Selectman Martell opened at 6:33pm.

**Maintenance of Garden Site**

Cyd Reiman asked the Board of Selectmen for support in maintenance of the garden space, which is on town owned land. Cyd originally spoke with Rick Adamcek, Highway Superintendent, about mowing the land and field around the garden space to keep it looking appealing for those who garden or use the land around it. Rick mentioned that it would be put on the Highway Departments schedule but the DPW has gotten really busy at times. This issue is not a financial problem but a time problem. Selectman Martell will speak to Rick. Dana MacDonald suggested that CPA money could be used to maintain the recreational areas. If a budget for time and materials is provided, then CPA could support this. Selectman Martell asked if by using the CPA funds, if anyone could be hired to mow the area? Dana replied that the CPA money could be used to pay for part-time help and that the amount spent for the maintenance is a fraction of the CPA’s yearly award. Dana suggested that he could easily add a warrant article to the Spring Town Meeting warrant for this. The Board of Selectmen were in support of using the CPA funds for maintaining the land at the garden site.

Cyd also commented on the pile of refuse; electric boxes, wire; at the site from the barn demolition. Selectman Martell suggested that Rick may know of someone who could mow and remove the pile.

**Appointment of Darci Palmquist-Library Trustee Vacancy**

Darci Palmquist was not present but Library Trustee Chair Joan Levy & members Greg Wardlaw and Gale Hubley were in attendance to support this appointment; vacancy created by Judith Seelig. The appointment is until the May 2017 election.

On a motion by Selectman Pearson to appoint Darci Palmquist to the vacant seat as Library Trustee until May 2017 Annual Town Election, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

Library Trustee votes, aye, Joan Levy, aye, Greg Wardlaw, aye, Gale Hubley, unanimous.

**Conservation Restriction – Buffam Brook Community Forest**

Dana MacDonald, Conservation Commission Chairman, and Kat Deely, Kestrel Trust, discussed the progress that is being made on Buffam Brook Community Forest. The project is using CPA funds and involves purchasing land with 3rd party. Dana would like the Select Board to sign off on the Conservation Restriction, which protects the land and acts like an insurance policy. The Conservation Restriction document is legally required to close on this property. The total acreage is 160. The Conservation Commission has already approved and signed off on this Conservation Restriction.

On a motion by Selectman Pearson to accept the deed of the Buffam Brook Community Forest, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

On a motion by Selectman Pearson to sign the Conservation Restriction for Buffam Brook Community Forest, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

Final copy of the Conservation Restriction will come from Kat Deely.

Dana MacDonald would like to recommend David Gross as a new member for the Conservation Commission to fill vacant seat. On a motion by Selectman Pearson to appoint David Grossman to the Conservation Commission, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

**Aggregation Contract – New Rates/Pricing**

Rates as of January 5th, 2017 still stand with a start date of March 1, 2017 if Select Board moves forward tonight. Selectman Pearson favors Mass Class I Recs more than Wind and Hydropower because MA Class I Recs drives local jobs near us. Selectman Martell would like the cheapest rate with the largest savings for Pelham residents. Selectman Pearson’s choice, MA Class I Recs product, is under the basic utility rate.

On a motion by Selectman Martell to choose the standard retail electric rate for Pelham residents, not seconded by anyone. Since there was not an agreement on one rate, the Aggregation rates will be revisited at a later time.

**Liaison Reports-**tabled until next meeting.

Energy Committee-Selectman Pearson; Energy Committee needs photo of before and after of project at Community Building and costs about $200 to hire photographer.

**Old Business**

Kathy Martell was informed by Pelham resident Alana Victor of the request for supplies from the public to help the incoming refugees from Syria. Alana would like the Select Board to support having a donation box either in the Library/Rhodes Building. On a motion by Selectman Pearson to approve the request from Alana Victor for donation box to support refugees, seconded by Selectman Martell, unanimously approved.

**New Business-**none.

**Adjournment**

On a motion to adjourn by Selectman Martell, seconded by Selectman Pearson, unanimously approved at 7:23pm.

**Documents Examined**

Buffam Brook Community Forest Conservation Restriction document, maps and approval form, Special Election Warrant, Aggregation Rates from January 5, 2017.

Respectfully submitted, Susannah Carey