

Town of Oak Bluffs - Select Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday April 26, 2022, 4:30pm

Present: Chair Brian Packish, Select Persons Jason Balboni, Gail Barmakian, Emma Green-Beach, Ryan Ruley

Also Present: Town Administrator Deborah Potter, Assistant Town Administrator Wendy Brough, Office Administrator Debra Alley

4: 33 p.m. Call Meeting to order

Public Announcements

Select Person Barmakian wishes to recognize today is the 107th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

Approve Executive Session Minutes March 14, 2022, March 22, 2022, and April 15 Select Board Minutes

Select Person Balboni moved to approve the March 14, 2022, Executive Select Board Minutes, Seconded by Select Person Barmakian. 5 – Aye.

Select Person Balboni moved to approve the March 22, 2022, Executive Select Board Minutes, Seconded by Select Person Green-Beach. 5 – Aye.

Select Person Balboni moved to approve the April 15, 2022, Special Select Board Minutes, Seconded by Select Person Barmakian. 3 - Aye 2 – Abstentions.

Select Board Reorganization - Vote to Elect Chair and Vice Chair

Select Person Ruley and Select Person Barmakian made comment they were interested in being Chairperson for the Board.

Chair Packish nominated Select Person Ruley as Chair for the coming year. Seconded by Select Person Balboni. 3 - Aye 2 - Nay.

Select Person Barmakian made known she would like to be considered for Vice Chair.

Select Person Balboni motioned to appoint Select Person Barmakian as Vice Chair for the coming year. 5 - Aye.

Discussion and possible approval of Seasonal Establishments Alcohol, Common Victualer and Entertainment Licenses for 2022 season - attached

Select Person Balboni motioned to approve the Seasonal Alcohol, Common Victualler and Entertainment Licenses as listed for the 2022 season. Seconded by Select Person Green-Beach. 4 - Aye (Select Person Packish recused himself)

Discussion and possible vote on multiple one day beer and wine application MV Sharks - Russell Curran

Select Person Balboni motioned to approve the multiple (15) one-day alcohol permits as written on the application, seconded by Select Person Green-Beach 5 - Aye.

The Select Board will meet again on June 28th, 2022, meeting to discuss, vote and possibly approve the remaining fifteen one day permits.

Discussion and possible vote of implementation of Town flag policy -attached

Select Person Balboni does not believe any third-party flags should be flown on any Town Buildings. Select Person Barmakian and Select Person Green-Beach feel the draft Town Flag Policy is too harsh.

Select Person Ruley would like to work with Mr. Hardy-Doubleday and other to look for an alternative location to display other third-party flags.

Mr. Hardy-Doubleday has suggested to amend the flag policy which would allow the Select Board to approve certain flags be allowed to fly on the Town Flag Poles.

Members of the public spoke supporting flying the Progress Pride Flag, Juneteenth Flag, and other flags in support of the LGBTQ+ community.

The Board feel more attention is needed to discuss amendments to the flag policy.

No vote taken. Select Person Green-Beach and Select Person Ruley will work with two members of the NAACP and other members of the public to draft an amended flag policy. The sub-committee will consist of seven people.

Discussion and possible vote on raising the Progress Pride Flag in Ocean Park - Arthur Hardy-Doubleday and Jennelle Gadowski

Request to fly the Progress PRIDE Flag on Flag Poles in Ocean Park, Oak Bluffs Police Station, Oak Bluffs Fire / EMS Station, and Oak Bluffs Town Hall.

130 signatures on a petition to support flying the PRIDE flag on Wednesday June 1, 2022
Fire Chief Nelson Wirtz, Deputy Fire Chief Foster and Police Chief Blake have all approved the flying of the Progress Pride Flag.

Select Person Balboni does not agree with flying the Progress Pride Flag under the American Flag on Town Flagpoles. Select Person Green-Beach would like to vote to fly the Progress PRIDE flag on all Town Flag poles under the American Flag. Select Person Ruley would like to see the Progress PRIDE flown on the Flagpole in Ocean Park for the weekend of Pride. Select Person Barmakian would like to see the flying of the PRIDE progress flag flying for a shorter period of time (not for the thirty days of Pride month)

Select Person Ruley made a motion to approve the flying of the Progress Pride Flag on the Ocean Park American Flagpole from June 1, 2022 - June 14, 2022, Seconded by Select Person Barmakian. 4 - Aye 1 - Nay. (Select Person Balboni opposed)

Discussion and possible vote on the Pride Parade -Larkin Stalling /Sofie Green

Parade is June 11, 2022, Start at Island Queen, and Finish at Ocean Park. Circuit Avenue will not be closed, traffic will be interrupted. A detail office will lead the parade and one will follow the parade.

Select Person Balboni made a motion to approve the Pride Parade and Amplified Sound in Ocean Park seconded by Select Person Ruley. 5 - Aye.

Discussion and possible vote to appoint Emily deBettencourt as Acting Harbor Master

Select Person Barmakian made a motion to appoint Emily deBettencourt as Acting Harbor Master as of July 1, 2022, seconded by Select Person Green-Beach. 5 - Aye.

ATA and Town Administrator Report - Attached

Select Board Update

Gail Barmakian recognized the Town Clerks Office with the re-count for the Select Board Election - Colleen Morris, Jacqueline Diggs, Laura Honey, Bertha Maderias, and other volunteers involved in the recount.

Select Board Ruley congratulated Select Person Barmakian on her re-election to the Select Board. He commented on the boards ability to work through the issues which were on tonight's agenda.

Select Person Balboni acknowledge the hard work of the staff in Town Hall. Town policies need to be a priority so that items do not make it to an agenda if they do not need to.

Select Person Green-Beach agrees with the need for policies.

Chairperson Packish commented he attended the first meeting of the school funding formula. He is meeting with Sherry Countryman weekly. Chair Packish will continue to work on the Police Chief search. Police assessment center is Wednesday May 4, 2022. Interviews on May 12th and 13th 2022.

Public Comment

Gazette asked about the timing for issuing the RFP for Kennebec Ave portion of Street Scape, and the funding of the Circuit Ave portion of the Street Scape Project

Adjourn 7: 33 p.m.

Select Person Balboni made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Select Person Ruley 5 - Aye.

Respectfully Submitted



Debra Alley – Office Administrator

Approved – Select Board Meeting June 14, 2022