



**NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION**  
January Meeting of Members  
January 22, 2019, at 4:00 pm  
In the Learning Lab of the Nantucket Atheneum

**DRAFT MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Present: Mary Anne Easley, Colleen McLaughlin, Jane Miller, Phil Read, Lee Saperstein, Anne Terry, Henry Terry, Barbara von der Groeben, and Paula Williams.

Guests: Stephen Murphy, Chief, and Sean Mitchell, Fire Protection Officer, Nantucket Fire Department.

**I. Call to Order.**

President Henry Terry called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm in the Learning Lab of the Nantucket Atheneum.

**II. Approval of minutes of the Meeting of September 25, 2018.**

Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting, September 25, 2018, was moved by Colleen McLaughlin, seconded by Anne Terry, and approval was unanimous.

**III. Treasurer's Report.**

Treasurer Anne Terry reported (attached) expenses of \$150.00, income of \$20.00, and a new balance of \$4,169.88. Approval of the report was moved by Colleen McLaughlin, seconded by Paula Williams, and approved unanimously. Treasurer Terry reminded members that 2019 dues are payable through the web site: <https://www.nantuckettownassociation.org/>.

**IV. New Business.**

There was none.

**V. Old Business**

Henry Terry reminded the group that we had, in years previous, made a donation to the Nantucket Atheneum in recognition of their help in arranging meeting places for us. By acclamation, it was agreed to make a 2019 donation of \$250.00 to the Atheneum.

## **VI. Guest Presentation. Chief Murphy and Officer Mitchell**

Steve Murphy began his presentation by reporting on the status of the new fire station. He said that “It’s coming together rapidly.” When the equipment-bay doors are delivered, they will be able to turn on the heat in the building. A new, indoor wash facility for turn-out gear is a real improvement; gear will be able to be de-contaminated and returned to service rapidly.

The anticipated opening date is in the middle to the end of April. The controlling factor is the need to emplace topsoil around the building but that will depend upon sufficiently warm weather to plant grass seed. The asphalt aprons that must be laid, again, have to wait for warmer weather when the Island’s asphalt plant reopens.

The Fire Department is very pleased to be a recipient of a grant from the Community Health Initiative of the Nantucket Cottage Hospital for “paramedic training for seven firefighters and certification in Advanced Life Support (NCH)”. When training is complete, the department will be able offer paramedic services as early as the fall. Colleen McLaughlin asked about the difference between a paramedic and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Stephen Murphy replied that our first responder crews are EMTs; they may make a patient comfortable and apply emergency first aid but they may not begin medical intervention whereas paramedics can begin medical treatment in the field. Paramedics may administer life-saving medications and pain reduction care and may also begin diagnosis procedures that can alert the receiving emergency room to the patients’ conditions and the care that should be rendered. Timing is everything in emergency care and our paramedics will decrease the response time and, thus, save lives.

The department has acquired new cloud-based software for communications among the hospital and responding teams: both fire and ambulance. Paula Williams asked how many ambulances do we have. The answer is four but they are only staffed for two otherwise they need call personnel. Oftentimes they only have enough staff for one ambulance. Their call-outs are frequent. For example, they had 16 call outs from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm when they left for this meeting. They are fully staffed in their budgeted positions.

Colleen McLaughlin asked what will they need after the building is ready. Stephen Murphy replied that their next most needed capital expenses are for equipment maintenance facilities and replacement of the ‘Sconset fire truck as well as some new air-breathing equipment. They have requests before Capital Program Committee for future fiscal-year budgets. They need the latest cardiac monitors that are small and light enough to be brought into a dwelling. A new ambulance is \$320,000 and they also have a schedule for replacing fire trucks. They are attempting to be responsible in their requests. For operational costs, he said that full-time staffing is based on 24-hr shifts with six people per shift and four shifts, which adds up to 24 full-time people. He has asked for two more permanent positions. Part-time staff are referred to as “call” personnel who get paid each time they are called to respond to an emergency.

Stephen Murphy then introduced Sean Mitchell, the Fire Protection Officer, who explained that he does inspections and training. He described a number of programs that the department has to keep people safe. He also mentioned that Barbara von der Groeben has been a valuable liaison to the community. She explained that, although no longer connected with the Red Cross, she started when she was with it.

- Generations SAFE is for helping senior citizens to be safe in their homes. When making an inspection, he will attend to smoke and carbon monoxide sensors, including changing their batteries, while Barbara talks to the home owners about safe practices in the home. She helps people to create a File of Life”, organized through the Nantucket Sheriff’s Department, which is an abbreviated medical history that can be put on the refrigerator where it can be found if there is an emergency response to the home. Mary Anne Easley asked about Do Not Resuscitate, DNR, or Don No Intubate, DNI orders. They suggested that first responders have to see the paperwork so copies should be put in a prominent place. Lee Saperstein asked about home-bound people whom they would need to visit if there is a power or communication failure. They have about 90 people whom they monitor. Incidentally, they said, we now have the ability to respond to a Text version of a 911 call for people who cannot speak.
- Isle Return is a program to help identify and locate people who wander. The enrollment form, [www.islereturnprogram.com](http://www.islereturnprogram.com), asks for a picture and medical information. Right now there are 10 to 15 people in the program.
- Safety Net is a related program that provides a radio-frequency tracking device, often worn as a bracelet, for people who are prone to wandering. These people or their caregivers are asked to call in by 10:00 am. If no call is received, the dispatchers send someone to check on them. When asked about access to enrollees’ homes, they said that they do have a key file but that it is hard to keep up to date. They would like to replace the key file with a system where each home in the program has a secure key box on the individual property.
- He handed out the Oven Stick, which is a wooden measuring stick notched so that it can be used to pull or push hot oven racks.
- Sean Murphy then handed out a comprehensive fire prevention booklet: “Prevent Fire in Your Home.”
- Lee Saperstein asked about fire extinguishers: their use and recharge. Stephen Murphy said that the safest thing to do with a fire is to leave the premises, shut the door, and call the fire department. If the fire is small, you have a safe retreat route, and you know how to use an extinguisher, then go ahead and use it. If the extinguisher has a plastic top and valve, then it should be discarded into the metal bin at the dump after it is used. If not fully discharged, then discharge should be completed before discarding. Sturdier extinguishers with a metal top and valve may be recharged by a supplier.

- In closing, Stephen Murphy told the group that the department runs a Stop Bleed class once a month that goes through the use of tourniquets. He said that experience has shown that tourniquets save lives in the case of otherwise uncontrolled bleeding.

**VIII. Other Business and Comments.**

None.

**VII. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 pm

**The next Nantucket Town Association meeting will be February 2, 2019, in the Learning Lab of the Nantucket Atheneum.**

Lee W. Saperstein, Secretary

DRAFT

NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION

Treasurer's Report

Jan 22, 2019

Beginning Balance	\$4,299.88
Deposits	
Dues	+20.00
Expenditures	-150.00
Alex LaPaglia	\$40
NCL Dues	\$95
Commonwealth of Mass	\$15
End Balance	\$4,169.88

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Terry