**Minutes of the Treasure Chest Committee**

January 12, 2023: 5:00 PM

Harwich Town Hall: Small Room

Committee Members Present: Eric Fahle, Ellie Gerson, Mary Moody, and Maureen (Reenie) Davis

Alt. Committee Member Present: Jean Bulger

Selectmen Present: Larry Ballantine

Treasure Chest Volunteers Present: None

Others Present: Linda Cohen

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Quorum:

A quorum of Treasure Chest Committee members was present at the meeting and the meeting was opened.

2. Old Business:

**Meeting Minutes: January 12, 2023:**

Treasure Chest Committee members were asked to read the draft Treasure Chest Committee Meeting minutes of November 17, 2022, for acceptance by the Committee. Larry noted that Bill Galvin was the Cape Cod Chronicle reporter present at the November 17th Treasure Chest Committee meeting. After the Committee members had a chance to review the draft minutes, Eric asked for a motion to accept the Treasure Chest Committee meeting minutes of November 17, 2022. Ellie made the motion to accept the minutes. Reenie 2nd the motion and the Treasure Chest Committee voted unanimously to accept the minutes of November 17, 2022, as amended.

**Discussion of Winter Hours:**

Ellie wanted the Treasure Chest Committee to reconsider shortening the hours of operation for January and February. The Treasure Chest has 17 Volunteers that work during January and February but 5 of the 17 Volunteers are not willing to work a half hour shift at the entrance gate guard shack to check for entrance stickers. Ellie noted that there were 24 gate shifts per weekend, so Ellie and Gretchen were working more than one shift per weekend to provide continuous coverage at the entrance gate. Accordingly, Ellie recommended that the Treasure Chest change its hours of operation from 10AM to 3PM for January and February. Heather stated that it is cold outside in the winter and it is cold in the guard shack. Reenie noted that the 9AM shift for working the guard shack was the coldest and that she was looking to get the guard shack winterized. Heather agreed with Reenie’s assessment. After further discussion by the Committee, Ellie made a motion to change the opening time of the Treasure Chest from 9AM to 10AM starting January 21st and to switch back to 9AM on March 4th. Eric 2nd the motion and the Committee voted unanimously in favor of changing the hours of operation as discussed.

3. New Business**:**

**Discussion with DPW on where Treasure Chest Trash and Recycled Goods Wind Up:**

Cody from the DWP was not able to attend the meeting so the discussion item was tabled for a future meeting.

**Election of the Vice Chair of the Treasure Chest Committee:**

The Committee discussed the Vice Chair position. Mary Moody indicated that she was interested in being elected Vice Chair, but the Committee was not sure if Mary was appointed by the Selectmen as a full-time Committee member or as an alternate Committee member. Larry said that he would check. Reenie also indicated that she would be willing to serve as Vice Chair. The Committee decided to table the discussion item for the next meeting.

**Where to Locate the Liz Watkins Memorial Bench:**

The Treasure Chest Committee members agreed that the Liz Watkins Memorial Bench should be placed next to the side entrance of the Treasure Chest building in the location of the picnic bench since this was where Liz spent a lot of her time when working at the Treasure Chest.

**Treasure Chest Volunteer Compliance Update:**

Selectman Ballantine received a complaint from a Treasure Chest Volunteer who was offended by another Treasure Chest Volunteer and reported it to Ellie. Ellie met with DPW Director Link Hooper and the Treasure Chest Volunteer who offended the other Treasure Chest Volunteer to discuss the issue. The offender was clearly remorseful of the incident and meant no disrespect to the offended Treasure Chest Volunteer. After the meeting, Ellie contacted the offended Treasure Chest Volunteer to discuss the meeting between the three and the outcome. Heather stated the Volunteers were doing a great job.

4. Open Session:

Ellie reported that over 100 Treasure Chest entrance stickers had been purchased at the Treasure Chest facility. New entrance stickers needed to be made for the new fiscal year that changes in June. This is the responsibility of the Selectmen. Ellie and Eileen noted that more handicapped parking signs are needed. There are currently three signs for handicapped parking locations. Heather and Ellie discussed how a person from Brewster purchased a Harwich Transfer Station sticker and wanted to receive a Treasure Chest entrance sticker. Reenie thanked Ellie for she has done since the reopening of the Treasure Chest.

5. Set Dates for Next Meetings:

The Treasure Chest Committee scheduled a meeting for January 26, 2023, at 5:00 PM in the Small Room at Town Hall to discuss with the DPW where Treasure Chest trash and recycled goods wind up.

The Treasure Chest Committee also scheduled a general meeting for March 9, 2023, at 5:00 PM in the Small Room at Town Hall.

6. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ellie and Reenie 2nd the motion to adjourn the meeting. The Treasure Chest Committee adjourned their meeting at 5:55 PM.