**Minutes of the Treasure Chest Committee**

September 12, 2023: 5:00 PM

Harwich Town Hall: Small Room

Committee Members Present: Ellie Gerson, Sheila Eldridge, Mary Moody, Reenie Davis, Cindy Beaulieu and Heather Bolinder

Alt. Committee Member Present: Jean Bulger & Eileen Garrity

Selectmen Present: None

Treasure Chest Volunteers Present: Andreas Georgiou, Chris Terranova, Linda Cohen, Tom Miani

Others Present: None

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1. Quorum:

A quorum of Treasure Chest Committee members was present at the meeting and the meeting was opened. The meeting was not recorded.

2. Old Business:

**Meeting Minutes: August 17, 2023:**

Treasure Chest Committee members were asked to read the draft Treasure Chest Committee meeting minutes of May 11, 2023, for acceptance by the Committee. Under Old Business, **Harassment of Treasure Chest Volunteers**, Ellie noted that the sentence that starts Chris, Cindy & Andreas…. should go after the sentence that ends with…. Volunteers who were working the morning shift. Additionally, in the last sentence under **Harassment of Treasure Chest Volunteers**, the draft minutes were revised to note that Alternate Committee member, Eileen Garrity abstained from the vote requesting that the Committee submit correspondence to the Selectmen requesting that they ban the customer from the Treasure Chest and that Ellie, as the Chair of the Committee work with Jeff Handler to bring the measure before the Selectmen as an agenda item at an upcoming meeting of the Selectmen. Ellie also noted that she was not in favor of the motion and voted no. After the Committee members had a chance to review the draft minutes, Ellie made the motion to accept the meeting minutes of August 17, 2023. Cindy 2nd the motion and the Treasure Chest Committee voted unanimously to accept the minutes of August 17, 2023.

**Harassment of Treasure Chest Volunteers:**

Ellie reported to the Committee that the Selectmen had discussed the issue at their meeting of September 5th, 2023 and their decision was to have law enforcement issue an Oder of No Trespass since the Selectmen have never voted to ban a resident from a Town Entity. Selectman, Jeff Handler had informed Ellie, as Chair of the Committee, that an investigation was ongoing. However, the Order of No Trespassing is not in place and any volunteer who feels uncomfortable working his/her shift should not work. Ellie made the calls to the Volunteers informing them of the situation and the weekend of September 9th & September 10th passed without incident.

**New Sticker Sales:**

As of September 12, 2023, 3,159 Treasure Chest stickers were sold @ $5 dollars each for a total of $15,795. Stickers will now be sold online and during weekdays at the Chamber of Commerce.  Ellie reports weekly to the Town Administrator the sticker number and/or plate number of those who will not place the sticker on the windshield. There is a mandate from the Town that states stickers should be attached to windshields.

3. New Business:

**Language for the Treasure Chest Committee’s Charge:**

The Committee discussed changes the Charge of the Treasure Chest Committee. No edits to paragraphs 1,2,4,5. In paragraph 3, line 6, strike “either” and after DPW Director insert “and/or”. In the 1st sentence of paragraph 6, add: The DPW Director, at his/her discretion and/or at the request… In the second sentence of paragraph 6, change the sentence to: “*The Chair of the TC committee and the DPW Director will request this recommendation be an agenda item for a future Select Board meeting and the Select Board’s decision shall be final”.*

Under Rules of Etiquette, correct the spelling of Resident. Under Rule 2, strike “*or unposted*”. Under Rule 3 change “immediate” to “*recommending*” and from Rule 4 strike all words after “and” and replace with “*police will be called*”.

**Brief Update Regarding the Operations of the Treasure Chest During the Busy Summer Months of July and August:**

Ellie provided a brief update regarding operation of the Treasure Chest facility during the busy summer months of July & August. Overall, operations went well, and the Treasure Chest only had to close early only once on a Saturday afternoon due to excessive heat. The DPW has been timely in keeping the facility in good operating condition.  It was reiterated that volunteers have the discretion about what to accept from Treasure Chest sticker holders who want to donate items. Sometimes there can be an excess of certain items so on certain days Volunteers may not choose to accept more of those items.

4. Open Session:

A treasure Chest volunteer stated that the TC is a safe venue, and the incident discussed tonight was an isolated incident. Reminder: Open Meeting Law Training is on Thursday September 28, 2023.

5. Set Date for Next Meeting:

The Treasure Chest Committee scheduled their next meeting for October 12, at 5:00 PM in the Small Room at Town Hall.

6. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ellie and Eileen 2nd the motion to adjourn the meeting and the Treasure Chest Committee adjourned their meeting at 6:00 PM.