

ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF NONVOTING TAXPAYERS
Minutes of meeting 10 A.M., SATURDAY, July 27, 2019, at
4 Fairgrounds Road

1. Attending: Kathy Baird, Gary Beller, Howard Blitman, Bill Gardner, Peter Halle, Peter Kahn, and Bill Sherman; guest speaker Kristie Ferrantella, member Select Board, VP of Nantucket Island Chamber of Commerce, member TGSC. Members absent: Lou Bassano, Chair Don Green, Sue Matloff and Jay Strauss.
2. Vice-Chair Gary Beller opened the meeting at 10:03 a.m., declaring a quorum present. Proposed minutes for the July 27, 2019 meeting were approved. Our guest Kristie Ferrantella was welcomed.
3. Kristie noted that her ancestors on island traced back to its founders. After college off-island, she returned to a succession of island jobs in banking, with NGO data platform and volunteer involvement in housing, transportation and landfill issues.
4. As a TGSC member, Kristie [like TGSC Chair John Brescher] is concerned about low (~7%) turnout at Open Town Meetings and selective attendance of groups interested in particular articles. Planned e-voting offers voting free from worry about opinions of others. A particular problem is failure of funding votes at the ballot box after approval at Town Meeting (but that problem is not resolved by changing to Representative Town Meeting). Social media seems to influence island voter decisions.
5. Responding to Howard Blitman, Kristie noted that both sides in the controversial Surfside Crossing 40B project have appealed. Had the Town's affordable housing project off Ticcoma Way not been derailed by abutter appeal, safe-harbor status would have barred the Surfside Crossing 40B. This spring, the state accorded safe-harbor status to the Town. The 266-unit Richmond Group 'friendly' 40B is off Old South Road, raising further concern about OSR traffic.
6. Mindful of voter turn-down of funding for needed (and Town-Meeting approved) infrastructure upgrades, Kristie thought future funding requests would be proposed in simpler 'packages.' The Select Board is committed to sidewalk improvements, thinking to encourage walking instead of car travel. Prospective flooding with global warming impacts development of Harbor Place. In the last year, some 500 vehicles have been newly registered in Nantucket. While the Town benefits from increased excise tax revenue, the portent for traffic is serious.

7. Kristie expects paid parking in town center by 2020 with charges scaled for demand management.
8. Kristie was thanked as she left the meeting at 10:50 a.m.
9. Following a call for election of ACNVT officers, upon motion made, duly seconded and passed, the following got a unanimous vote:
 - Chair incumbent Don Green
 - Vice-Chair incumbent Gary Beller
 - Secretary Kathy Baird
10. A conversation ensued about ways to encourage new ACNVT members, summer resident attendance at meetings and increased focus on key concerns or issues upon which ACNVT might vote recommendations to the Select Board. Kathy suggested contacting the Nantucket Civic League, asking inclusion of ACNVT PR in its newsletter. Peter Heller suggested setting up a full summer schedule of speakers to aid publicizing meetings that might interest the public.
11. In a brief discussion of prospective increases in flooding, Gary Beller spoke of a stormwater pump failure adding to Brant Point problems, also his impressions as ACNVT representative on the Coastal Resiliency Advisory Committee. Some 300 of the island's historic buildings will be at risk. Speaking from an environmentalist perspective, Howard Blitman thought relocation preferable to fortification. Fortification would be very expensive.
12. Members expressed the desire to hear from Town Transportation Planner Mike Burns and DPW Director Rob McNeil in the two remaining 2019 meetings.
13. The meeting was closed at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Sherman, (ex) Secretary

Draft minutes e-distributed 8/6/19. Minutes adopted 8/ /19,
posted 8/ /19 and hard copy submitted to Town Clerk 8/ /19