



Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

June 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Daniel Freitas, Vice Chairman Charles Murphy, Clerk Robert Espindola
Town Administrator Mark Rees, and Administrative Assistant Vicki Paquette.

Mr. Freitas called the meeting to order in the West Island Community Center at 6:36 p.m. The meeting was recorded by Cable Access.

MINUTES

Mr. Espindola noted that there was a misspelling on page 2 for McLaughlin.

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2018 meeting, open session as amended. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Mr. Murphy motioned to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2018 meeting, executive session. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Mr. Rees updated the Board on several matters:

- Mr. Rees announced the provisional appointment of a new Police Officer, Christopher Beauregard, for the Town of Fairhaven. Mr. Beauregard has been a military Police Officer for 5 years and presented a very impressive resume. He will still need to pass the Police Academy and more tests
- Mr. Rees congratulated Deputy Chief Todd Correia on recently graduating from Suffolk University
- Mr. Rees told the Board that the Fire Department was recently awarded a SAFER grant by FEMA. This will provide for the federal government to pay a portion of the salaries for two new Fire Fighters for the first three years
- Mr. Rees thanked the Doug Brady and the Rogers Reuse Committee for cleaning the grounds at Rogers School
- Mr. Rees recently attended the BASK,inc. ribbon cutting ceremony

- Mr. Rees recently signed the VeoRide bike share agreement
- Mr. Rees said the Fairhaven Fire Department recently received a grant from the South Coast Hospital Benefactor Committee for \$60,000 which will be used to purchase a Stryker Loading System (a mechanized patient stretcher)
- Senator Mark Montigny’ s office recently informed the Town that the State Budget would include a \$ 180,000 grant to upgrade the HVAC system at the Council on Aging and Rec. Center
- Mr. Rees and recently approved the Fairhaven Call Firefighters Association to clean up and maintain the “Welcome to Fairhaven” sign on Huttleston Avenue
- Mr. Rees informed the Board that ABC Disposals will continue to collect recyclables after July 1, 2018

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORT

Under Committee liaison report:

- Selectman Murphy stated that Fairhaven High School sister city program is looking for host families for exchange students
- Selectman Espindola said the Fourth of July parade group has met and will try to organize a parade hopefully, if not for this year, next year
- Chairman of the Bikeway Committee, Mat Coes, and the Bike share program are meeting with the BPW
- Chairman Freitas said the Marine Resources Committee want to meet with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the Navigator and the signage for the parking rules and regulations at Hoppy’s Landing

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Selectman Freitas read the list of reappointment names for Boards and Committees. He said the Board would be passing over the Council on Aging appointments at this time. Mr. Murphy made a motion to reappoint all names for the terms indicated and to be sworn in at the Town Clerk. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

AQUACULTURE LICENSE PUBLIC HEARING

In attendance were the applicants Matt Loo, Larry Fowler, and John Mills and Harbormaster Tim Cox. Mr. Cox explained that once the licenses have been approved by the Board of Selectmen the licensees will then have to go the State of Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries and then appear again before the Board of Selectmen before the process has final approval.

At 7:00p.m. Chairman Freitas opened the public hearing. He read the public hearing notice for the three aquaculture licenses. Mr. Espindola said the aquaculture licenses have gone through the approval process. Chris Schillaci from the Division of Marine Fisheries helped find the

locations. Harbormaster Cox met with Mr. Schillaci to come up with a spot that was appropriate for these farms. He said they chose this location because it will not be near any houses to block resident's views and it will not be near any eel grass. Mr. Freitas asked for each applicant to tell a little bit about themselves.

Mr. Mills said he grew up on West Island. He is a scuba diver and sees this opportunity as a natural progression as to what he does. Mr. Fowler has been in the shellfishing industry for 17 years. Mr. Loo runs a 1 acre aquaculture site in Jack's Cove and is looking to expand his business.

Chairman Freitas opened the hearing for public comment. JP Lemieux asked if this is a personal business for all three applicants. Each man answered that this is their own business. Mr. Fowler has a partner.

Chairman Freitas closed the Public Hearing at 7:06p.m. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the aquaculture licenses for Matt Loo, Larry Fowler and John Mills for 3 years subject to renewal for 10 years providing the Division of Marine Fisheries approval. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Mr. Murphy made a motion in accordance to the rules and regulation guidelines for John Mills. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Mr. Murphy made a motion in accordance to the rules and regulation guidelines for Matt Loo. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Mr. Murphy made a motion in accordance to the rules and regulation guidelines for Larry Fowler. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0) (Attachment A)

DOG PARK COMMITTEE CHARGE

Chairman Freitas read the charge as written for the Dog Park Study Committee. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the charge for the Dog Park Study Committee. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0) (Attachment B)

ACTING TOWN CLERK

Mr. Rees told the Board that as allowed by State law the Board of Selectmen can appoint the assistant Town Clerk as the acting Town Clerk upon the retirement of the current Town Clerk. Mrs. Hurley was in attendance and thanked the Selectmen. She said she would graciously accept the appointment and felt this was an honor. Mr. Murphy made a motion to appoint Carolyn Hurley as temporary acting Town Clerk. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0) (Attachment C)

MILLICENT LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Chairman Freitas read a letter from the Millicent Library requesting the use of the Town Hall Auditorium for two programs in the summer. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the Millicent Library request to use the Town Hall Auditorium on June 21, 2018 and on August 1, 2018. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

FALL TOWN MEETING DATE

Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 7:00p.m. for a Special Fall Town Meeting and Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7:00p.m. if there is a need for further discussion. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN

Fairhaven Fire Chief Tim Francis and Deputy Chief Todd Correia were in attendance to present the Emergency Preparedness Plan to the Board of Selectmen. The Deputy explained that all departments had updated their information. There are still a few changes to be made to the Council on Aging, The Recreation Center and the School Department pages. The Fire Department is working closely with the Emergency Management Agency and the Board of Health. This is a joint effort to keep all the departments' standard. Deputy Chief Correia told the Board the Fire Department has introduced their new web page this week and the Emergency Preparedness Plan will be online available for the public.

West Island resident Scot Pomfret had concerns about the shelters being pet friendly. Chief Francis said he is working with the State and Federal Agencies to create pet friendly shelters.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to adopt the Emergency Preparedness Plan as presented. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REORGANIZATION

Mr. Rees explained to the Board he is recommending that the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) be under the supervision of the Fire Chief for the purpose of better coordination and efficiency of services. The Selectman thanked current EMA Director Marc Jodoin for all his hard work. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the Town Administrator's reorganization of the EMA. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Planning and Economic Director Gloria McPherson was in attendance with Consultant Derek Punchard to present the Hazard Mitigation Plan to the Board of Selectmen. Ms. McPherson explained that Mr. Punchard worked closely with the Town to help come up with a Hazard Mitigation Plan. The overall purpose of the plan was to identify specific actions the Town can take to eliminate or reduce damage due to natural causes and to make Fairhaven eligible for grant funding. The Selectmen all expressed how pleased they were with the plan that was presented and to see the Town taking the steps necessary to receive grant funding. Mr. Murphy made a motion to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to sign the resolution adopting the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0) (Attachment D & E)

CABLE ACCESS DIRECTOR

Mr. Rees introduced Derek Frates to the Board. Mr. Frates was chosen as the top applicant for the Cable Access Director's position. Mr. Frates told the Board he is looking forward to getting involved in the community. His anticipated start date will be July 2, 2018. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the Town Administrator's appointment of Cable Access Director Derek Frates. Mr. Espindola seconded the vote. (3-0) (Attachment F)

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL WORKING GROUP

Mr. Rees explained that Town Counsel Tom Crotty is looking for permission from the Board of Selectmen to have the Town participate in a working group for regarding municipal energy. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve Town Counsel to participate in the multi-jurisdictional working group regarding municipal energy. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

USS EAGLE

Harbormaster Tim Cox was in attendance to inform the Selectmen that United States Coast Guard has contacted him about the arrival of the tall ship The USS Eagle on the weekend of August 12, 2018 to Fairhaven. Mr. Cox said he is still discussing with the Coast Guard where the ship will dock because of her size and the depth of the waters. The Eagle band will be play a concert on the steps of Town Hall. In the event of inclement weather the concert will be played indoors at the Hastings Middle School. The Fairhaven Improvement Association has agreed to pay for port-a-johns at Town Hall for the concert. Harbormaster Cox feels honored that The Eagle has chosen Fairhaven as one of its stops. Mr. Murphy made a motion to approve the USS Eagle visit to play in front of the Town Hall on August 12, 2018. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

SOUTHERN MASSACHUSETTS METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (SMMPO)

Mr. Murphy said he would like to continue to serve on the SMMPO, the committee responsible for development and review of transportation policies, priorities, and projects for the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD). Mr. Espindola made a motion to have Mr. Murphy continue serving on SRPEDD. Mr. Freitas seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

PLANNING BOARD VACANCY

Mr. Rees explained to the Selectmen that there was a recent vacancy on the Planning Board due to the recent resignation of one of the members. Mr. Rees explained that under MGL Ch. 41, Sec.81A when there is a vacancy the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board must appoint someone jointly. The position has been posted publicly and the deadline is June 22, 2018.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mr. Murphy thanked the organizers of the Memorial Day Parade for a job well done.
- Mr. Murphy showed an issue of the Senior Lifestyles Magazine where three Council on Aging employees all over the age of 80 were featured. He was very proud to have them working for our Senior Center. (Attachment G)
- Mr. Murphy also expressed how proud he was on Sunday, June 3, 2018 at the Fairhaven High School graduation to see 140 students graduate. There were over \$2.2 million in scholarships awarded to graduating student.
- Mr. Espindola told the Board that he attended the flag raising services at Fort Phoenix on Memorial Day. He said it was a nice ceremony honoring Mike Costa.
- Mr. Espindola said the Board and Mr. Rees will be attending the ribbon cutting at the new Big Lots in the former Kmart Plaza on Friday, June 8, 2018.
- Mr. Freitas offered condolences to the family of Scott Hartman. Mr. Freitas said Mr. Hartman was a good friend, father, son and brother and he will be missed.

Mr. Murphy made a motion to adjourn at 8:03p.m. Mr. Espindola seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki L. Paquette

Vicki Paquette
Administrative Assistant
(Minutes approved on 6/18/2018)

Documents appended:

- A: Public Hearing Notice**
- B: Dog Park Study Committee Charge**
- C: Letter from Town Clerk/ Vacancy Options**
- D: Hazard Mitigation Plan Power Point**
- E: Hazard Mitigation Resolution**
- F: Cover letter and resume for Derek Frates**
- G: Article from Lifestyles newsletter**



**Town of Fairhaven
Massachusetts
Office of the Town Administrator**

40 Center Street
Fairhaven, MA 02719

Tel: (508) 979-4023
Fax: (508) 979-4079
selectmen@Fairhaven-MA.gov

REVISED

Public Hearing Notice

The Fairhaven Board of Selectmen, pursuant to Section 3.2 of the Town of Fairhaven Rules and Regulations Governing Aquaculture, will conduct a public hearing at **7:00 p.m. on June 4, 2018** at the West Island Improvement Association, 41 Causeway Road, Fairhaven, MA on the application of John Mills, Matt Loo, and Larry Fowler, for an aquaculture license to operate a shell fish farm on approximately 6 acres of public water located in the Town of Fairhaven, filed on March 12, 2018. The coordinates of the area of operation are:

John Mills

41.3619.22,-70.5047.57
41.3619.85,-70.5050.80
41.3615.68,-70.5048.58
41.3616.11,-70.5051.66

Matt Loo

41.3625.60-705045.71
41.3626.24-705049.12
41.3622.33-70.5046.66
41.3622.97-705050.02

Larry Fowler

41.3622.33-70.5046.66
41.3622.97-70.5050.02
41.3619.22-70.5047.57
41.3619.85-70.5050.80

A copy of the complete application can be found on the Town's website: www.fairhaven-ma.gov and clicking on "Documents and Contracts"

Town of Fairhaven

Resolution Regarding Dog Park Study Committee

- Whereas:** Community Dog Parks provide great public benefit allowing for socialization among neighbors, friends and their pets;
- Whereas:** Community Dog Parks are perceived to be a municipal asset and serve as an incentive for individuals and families to stay and locate in communities;
- Whereas:** There is possibility of grant funds to pay for the construction of a dog park;
- Whereas:** Many residents have expressed an interest in assisting the Town in developing and maintaining a dog park;
- Whereas:** The Town previously had a Dog Park Committee that began the process of reviewing possible locations for a dog park;

Now therefore be it resolved:

That Dog Park Committee will be reinstated, that it will consist of five members appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve one year terms eligible for annual reappointment, and will be an ad-hoc, advisory committee that, after its work is completed, will be discharged from its duties. In addition to the five members, one member of the Board of Selectmen and one member of the Board of Public Works will serve as ex-officio members of the committee. The committee will comply with State of Massachusetts Public Meeting laws and Public Record laws.

The Committees work will be include, but not be limited to:

- Reviewing the work of the prior Dog Park Committee
- Developing a list of possible sites for the dog park and prioritizing the sites based on specific criteria such as location, utilities, parking, impact on neighbors, environmental issues, etc. and make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen as to the most suitable location.
- Develop a strategy to involve the public and stakeholders such as the Board of Public Works, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Building Commissioner and others that may be determined, in the review and selection process.
- Based on the location selected for the Dog Park, design the park in a way maximizes community benefit while minimizing negative impact.
- Research possible grant and other financing sources to pay for the construction of the dog park.
- Draft a plan that would provide continued maintenance and repairs to the facility through the use of volunteers.
- Write rules and regulations governing the use of the Dog Park and how they will be enforced.
- Submit an annual report, or more often if necessary, to the Board of Selectmen regarding progress made in building a Dog Park.

Approved by the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen on _____, 2018

Memo

Re: Town Clerk Vacancy and Appointment

From: Tom Crotty

May 9, 2018

This memo will address the options and procedures to follow in the event of the resignation of the town clerk.

1. Assistant Town Clerk

If the clerk has appointed an assistant pursuant to GL c 41 §19 (and I believe she has) then upon the effective date of the clerk's resignation, the assistant town clerk shall perform the clerk's duties, unless the selectmen have appointed a temporary clerk pursuant to GL c 41 §14.

2. Temporary Appointment Pursuant to GL c 41 §14 (Optional)

The selectmen have the option in the event of a vacancy in the office of town clerk to appoint a temporary town clerk. The only procedural requirement for the board to appoint a temporary town clerk pursuant to GL c 41 §14 is that the appointment be in writing by the board. (Neither the assistant clerk or the temporary clerk appointed by the board are required to be residents of the town, or registered voters.)

3. Special Election Pursuant to GL C 41 §10 (Optional)

Under GL C 41 §10, the selectmen also have the option in the event of a vacancy in the office of town clerk to call a special election to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the vacated term. In this case, that would be from the date of the special election until the April 2019 election. The special election may not be held prior to the effective date of the resignation.

If the board does call for a special election, the rules for election of town officers apply. The new town clerk would take the position upon election, and would hold the position until the April 2019 election. (In an election, whether special or annual, the candidates must be registered voters in the town.)

If the board does not call for a special election, then the Assistant Town Clerk or Temporary Appointee will remain in the position until April 2019, when the position will be filled at the April 2019 election.



TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN
OFFICE OF TOWN CLERK

40 CENTER STREET

FAIRHAVEN, MA 02719

PHONE: 508-979-4023 FAX: 508-979-4079

May 10, 2018

Daniel C. Freitas, Chair
Board of Selectmen

At this time, I would like to give the Selectmen my notice to retire on June 30, 2018.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my position as Town Clerk for the past 23 years and I look forward to the next chapter in my life.


Respectfully yours,

Eileen M. Lowney,
Town Clerk

2018 MAY 10 AM 11:28

Town of Fairhaven Hazard Mitigation Plan

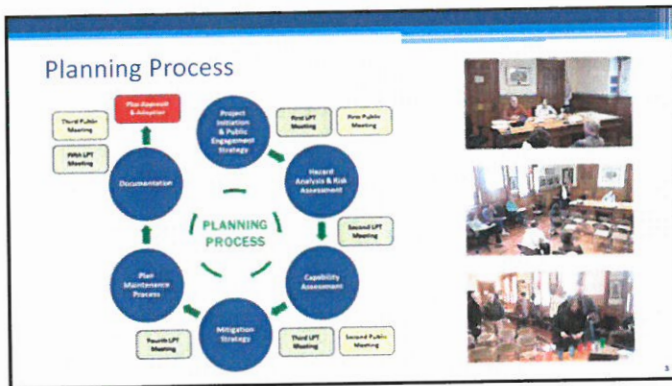
Darrin Punchard, AICP, CFM
June 4, 2018



Background

Hazard Mitigation
Any action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from hazards.

- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
 - Requires the adoption of a FEMA-approved hazard mitigation plan as a condition for federal mitigation grants and other types of non-emergency disaster assistance.
- In 2016, the Town of Fairhaven was awarded a planning grant from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA)
- Planning process was officially launched in January 2017
- Plan approved by MEMA in March 2018, and by FEMA in April 2018




Plan Overview

Main Plan


- Introduction
- Planning Process
- Community Profile
- Mitigation Strategy
- Plan Maintenance

Appendices

- Hazard Analysis and Risk Assessment
- Capability Assessment
- Additional Documentation



FINAL February 2018



Plan Purpose

- To help Fairhaven become **better prepared** and **more resilient** to potential emergencies and disasters
- To identify and assess the community's **natural hazard risks** and determine how to best minimize and manage those risks over time
- To make Fairhaven eligible and better positioned to receive federal grant funding for **mitigation projects** and other types of non-emergency disaster assistance

Risk Assessment Summary

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| HIGH RISK | Coastal Storm Coastal Flood Severe Winter Storm Severe Weather |
| MODERATE RISK | Fire Coastal Erosion and Sea Level Rise Riverine Flood |
| LOW RISK | Drought Earthquake Extreme Temperatures Urban Flood |

TOWN OF FAIRHAVEN

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE

FAIRHAVEN HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS, the citizens, property, and natural resources within the Town of Fairhaven are subject to the effects of natural hazards that pose threats to lives and cause damage to property, and with the knowledge and experience that certain areas of the community are particularly vulnerable to coastal erosion and sea level rise, coastal storms (including hurricanes, tropical storms and nor'easters), drought, earthquakes, extreme temperatures, fire, flood, severe weather (including high winds, thunderstorms, tornadoes) and severe winter storms (including snow, blizzards and ice storms) ; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairhaven desires to seek ways to mitigate the impact of identified hazard risks; and

WHEREAS, Section 322 of the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 states that local governments must develop a hazard mitigation plan in order to be eligible to receive federal Hazard Mitigation Assistance grant funds and other non-emergency disaster assistance funding, and that said plan must be updated and adopted within a five year cycle; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Town of Fairhaven to fulfill this obligation to be eligible for various forms of federal pre-disaster and post-disaster financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairhaven has performed a comprehensive review and evaluation of hazard risks, local capabilities, and available mitigation strategies as required under federal regulations at 44 CFR Part 201 and according to guidance issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairhaven has prepared a hazard mitigation plan and has fulfilled all the requirements for state and federal plan approval as established by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and FEMA;

NOW, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Selectmen of the Town Fairhaven hereby:

1. Adopts the Fairhaven Hazard Mitigation Plan; and
2. Vests the Town Administrator or the Town Administrator's designee with the responsibility, authority, and the means to oversee implementation of the Plan.

3. Appoints the Town Administrator or the Town Administrator's designee to assure that the Hazard Mitigation Plan is reviewed and maintained as specified in the plan to assure that the plan is in compliance with all State and Federal regulations and that any needed revisions or amendments to the plan are developed and presented to the Fairhaven Board of Selectmen for consideration.
4. Agrees to take such other official action as may be reasonably necessary to carry out the objectives of the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Adopted on this day [date]

By: [Signatures of Board of Selectmen]

Certified by: _____ SEAL : _____

Date: _____

Attachment F

March 27, 2018

To whom it may concern:

I am applying for the position of Government / Public Cable Television Access Coordinator (Director). Currently employed by the Town of Dartmouth as Cable Access Coordinator, I have held multiple positions at Dartmouth Community Television since 2006.

Involved the Cable Access industry since 1998, my experience includes working in different communities in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. My professional background consists of having served in various roles including Cable Access Coordinator, Production Coordinator, Videographer, Director and Editor.

I obtained my Master's degree in Media from Rhode Island College in 2011.

Extensive experience in government, educational, and public access television qualifies me as an ideal candidate for the position. I eagerly welcome the opportunity to interview for the position. Attached is my resume and references can be furnished upon request.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank You,

Derek T. Frates

Derek T. Frates

Employment

Dartmouth Community Television **August 2006 – Present** **Dartmouth, MA**
Cable Access Coordinator *August 2013 – Present*

- Oversee programming, content on public access channel for the town of Dartmouth using Cablecasting software
- Maintain equipment for public access members including scheduling of reservations for studio and use and editing through website at DartmouthTV.com
- Conduct training courses in studio production, camera operation, and Adobe software used in post-production editing for public access members

Production Coordinator *August 2006 – August 2013*

- Coordinate full scale multi camera productions for broadcast utilizing production truck for sporting events (Dartmouth High School and UMass Dartmouth), musical performances including school concerts at on location shoots requiring crew management
- Produce documentaries, studio recordings, using all facets of directing, filming, and editing

Westport Access Community Cable **January 2006 – September 2009** **Westport, MA**
Public Access Coordinator

- Maintain the access television schedule for 2 channels (government & public access)
- Film town select board and town meetings

Falmouth Community Television **July 2005 – August 2006** **Falmouth, MA**
Production Coordinator/ Interim Station Manager

- Oversee daily operations of programming and playback of the station
- Facilitate ongoing training and support to FCTV members and volunteers
- Produce town/select board meetings, commercials, Falmouth road race, Cape League Baseball

New Bedford Cable Network **October 2000 – June 2005** **New Bedford, MA**

- Assist in operations of public, educational, and government (PEG) access programming
- Coordinate multi camera event coverage including sporting events and city meetings
- Conduct training classes for the community in all areas of television production

Education

Rhode Island College *Master of Arts in Media Studies, 2011* **Providence, RI**

Salem State University *Bachelor of Science in Communications* **Salem, MA**

Rhode Island School of Design *Continuing Ed. Digital Video Courses* **Providence, RI**

FAIRHAVEN SENIOR LIFESTYLES

Dedicated to Serving Fairhaven's Finest, Our Senior Citizens



229 Huttleston Avenue, Fairhaven, MA 02719

Phone: (508) 979-4029 · Fax: (508) 979-4116

Email: asilvia@fairhaven-ma.gov - Website: www.fairhaven-ma.gov



MAY 2018

MAY IS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

AGE IS
just a
NUMBER



In celebration of May being Older Americans Month, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce three amazing seniors who are employed at the Fairhaven Senior Center. Pictured above are **Paul Simmons**, **Barbara Johnson** and **Frank Barcellos**. They are living proof that age is just a number.

Paul Simmons, 85 years young, a lifelong resident of Fairhaven, has been employed by the Town of Fairhaven as a COA Van Driver for 22 years after his retirement as a truck driver for My Bread. Paul believes that his daily tasks of assisting folks with shopping bags, hopping in and out of the van, as well as climbing stairs several times a day, are contributing factors to his physical well being. His passengers are grateful for the transportation, but his contagious laugh and happy demeanor is what they love most about him.

Barbara Johnson, 83 years young, is a retired school teacher who decided that retirement wasn't for her, so she contacted Coastline and became involved in their Senior Aide Program. Through the Senior Aide Program directed by Karyl Ryan, seniors 55 years old and older, within a certain income bracket, are eligible to take part in this life changing program. They are paid through the Senior Aide Program and receive ongoing support in the effort to achieve permanent placement in the workforce. Barbara was interviewed as to what her interests were then matched with a job in a non-profit workplace which, fortunately for our seniors, was the Fairhaven Supportive Social Day Program. Barbara has been employed as an aide in the Social Day Program for 3 years and has been a huge asset to our team. Her compassion and enthusiasm for life is reflected in the love she receives from the Social Day clients and the respect so greatly deserved by her coworkers.

Frank Barcellos, 84 years young, also a lifelong resident of Fairhaven and has been employed by the Town of Fairhaven as the COA Van Driver for 18 years after his retirement as a Teamster for Local 59 driving an 18 wheeler for 34 years. The years of experience Frank has spent behind the wheel is evident, even today, as his confidence and awareness of safety creates a comfort amongst his passengers. Frank jokes that if he is driving the van and gets pulled over by the police, he'll just hop in the back with everyone else.

The common thread that Paul, Barbara and Frank share is the fact that their "retirement" years have been spent improving the quality of life for all the seniors of whom they have shared the gift of themselves. However, in reality, at the same time they have improved their own quality of life by committing to be purposeful even in their 80's. During my nursing career, someone once told me that when you leave one job for another, take something you have learned from that job with you and engage it in whatever your next endeavor might be. Now that I am a senior myself and looking ahead to my retirement years, you best know that I will take from this COA all that I have learned from Paul, Barbara and Frank....to get up each day with the purpose of enriching my life while making someone else's life better because, after all, age is just a number.

Anne Silvia

COUNCIL ON AGING STAFF

Anne Silvia, Executive Director
Cindy Vandenburg, Senior Clerk
Sue Roderiques, Social Day Coord.
Sally Bourke, Social Day Activities Dir.
Lucille Dauteuil, Outreach Coordinator
Carolyn Dantoni, Asst. Outreach Coord.
Christine Alfonse, Volunteer Coord.
Phyllis Pequita, Office Assistant
Rosemarie Houghton, Environmental
Van Drivers
Paul Simmons, Frank Barcellos,
David Gagnon, Leon Hebert
Cindy Vandenburg, Newsletter Editor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lindsay Gordon, Chairperson
Joan Mello, Vice Chairperson
Lee Cummings Allaire, Secretary
Albert Borges, Member
Jerry Brecken, Member
Francis Cox, Member
Jack Oliveira, Member
Joseph Borelli, Associate
Elaine O'Neill, Associate
Dorothy Reid, Associate

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Council on Aging
Is an Advocate for improved
Quality of Life for Seniors through
Education, Programs & Services.