Bringing Your Questions and Comments to a Public Meeting…or Not

Andover Select Board

Are you a person who hesitates to attend a town public meeting because you are too shy or hesitant to bring up questions or concerns in a public setting? Or are you a person who waits for the opportunity to voice your many frustrations to your elected officials, the more public the setting, the better? Maybe you are somewhere in between.

Wherever you are on the continuum, you have a right to attend a public meeting of any of the boards in town.

Public attendance at a meeting does not guarantee public participation. Not all towns include time for public participation at their Select Board meetings, though Andover traditionally does.

In order to be able to run a meeting where all members of the public feel comfortable, and the business of the past two weeks can be attended to, we are providing the following rules for public participation:

Welcome to the Meeting!

1. If you have a question or comment, you will be given three minutes to address the Board.
2. Please address the Board from your seat or from the podium provided.
3. The Chair of the Board will recognize you when it is your turn to speak.
4. Please be respectful to the people you are addressing and to other members of the public.
5. Disruption of the meeting (refusing to stop speaking, threatening behavior) will result in your being asked to leave. An officer is here to intervene if necessary.

If you have an issue that will require more time than is available at a regular Select Board meeting, please contact the Town Administrator. Sometimes a discussion with the Town Administrator can settle your issue. The Select Board can also be available to meet with you by appointment, if necessary.

For the Select Board, a public meeting is posted 24 hours in advance on the front door of the Town Office, and on the town website. We meet twice a month on the first and third Monday at 6:30 PM. Once you arrive at the meeting, there is an agenda, which usually begins with a report from the Road Agent. Then we move through Old Business, New Business, Correspondence and Signatures and finally, reviewing and accepting minutes of previous meetings. Sometimes an organization or an individual has contacted the Town Administrator ahead of time to discuss a specific topic and is placed on the agenda. If a member of the public is present and there is time in the agenda, they will be given an opportunity to address the Board.

We are your elected officials and we want to serve you as best we can. Please help us by letting us know your questions and concerns in a way that will allow us to provide the best response and the most help.

Fire *from page 1*

correctly. Radio frequencies are established to assure good communication between the helicopter pilot and our fire department at the landing field. Our apparatus must be placed to be easily seen from the air by the air crew. All this must take place in about fifteen minutes. Training and practice make this process flow like a well-oiled machine.

The EMTs depend on fire crews to deal with the landing procedures, as an incident that requires air transport will have the EMTs very busy. Patient information must be transmitted to the air crews to help assure a good medical transfer. The Andover emergency services team has called for air transport several times in the past. A typical incident will have an incredibly high energy response and decision making, and within thirty very fast minutes you watch the helicopter lift off and we all go back to the stations hoping that everything we did will make a difference. Like most things we do, training is the best tool we have to assure a positive outcome. Helicopter training, we will check as complete.

Many families like to have small campfires in their backyards. Some homeowners also like to burn woodland materials as a spring cleanup task. As many know, either activity requires a permit from a warden or deputy warden. In Andover we have tried to make obtaining a permit easy. First let's review the rules. A State permit is required to kindle a flame on the ground. With a permit you may burn between 5 PM and 9 AM. You may only burn woodland materials like leaves, grass or unpainted and unprocessed wood. Plywood or veneer is a glued, processed product and may not be burned. Tree branches must be less than five inches in diameter. Stump burning is not allowed. In most cases we will inspect the fire location and materials when we issue the permit. We will help you to stay safe and legal. However, please remember, if you light it you own it, so be careful. A garden hose can be a wonderful thing. At some point this summer we will be issuing permits online, please stay tuned.

Warden: Stephen Barton 848-3446 Deputy Wardens: Chuck Ellis 848-0678, Jeff Miller 454-5030, Jake Otis 491-0641, Fred Lance 340-4846, Rene Lefebvre 344-1201. You may also obtain a permit at the town office. Stay safe!

Events Calendar

June 1

Center for Arts 1st Friday at New London Barn: 5-7 PM

Documentary Film on Black History in NH: 7 PM at Warner Town Hall, humanities.center@unh.edu

June 2

Marc Cohn in Concert: 7:30 PM, at Flying Monkey Perf. Ctr., Plymouth, flyingmonkey.com, 603-536-2551

June 4

Salisbury Farmers' Market Opens: 3 - 6 PM at Salisbury Town Hall

June 9

Hospice Garden Dedication: 11 AM at Franklin VNA & Hospice, 75 Chestnut St., Franklin

June 7

New England Quilts and the Stories They Tell: 7 PM, Franklin Public Library

June 10

Tucker Mountain School House Tours: 1-3 PM, Tucker Mountain Road, E. Andover

June 13

Andover Service Club Annual Meeting:at 74 Main/Millstone in New London, arrive 11:30 to Noon. Meeting begins at noon.

June 14

Meet Candidates Kelly and Donovan: 5:30 PM at Highland Lake Inn, E. Andover

June 15

Andover Coffeehouse, Roots Revival Band: 7 PM at Highland Lake Grange Hall, E. Andover

Tribute to "The Band" concert: 7:30 PM at Flying Monkey Perf. Ctr., Plymouth, flyingmonkey.com, 603-536-2551

June 16

Neil Young Tribute Band: 7:30 PM at Franklin Opera House in Franklin, franklinoperahouse.org, (603) 934-1901

June 20

Celebrate Reading, Writing with Author Amy Makechnie: 5:30 PM at Stone Chapel, Proctor Academy

June 21

Poor Houses & Town Farms talk by Steve Taylor: 7 PM at Highland Lake Grange Hall, E. Andover

Telephone Museum Presents Rebecca Rule: 7 PM at Warner Town Hall

June 28

Senior Center Progressive Dinner: Cocktails begin at 5 PM, RSVP (603) 526-6368

June 30

KUUF Summer Classical Music Concert: 7:30 PM at at Stone Chapel at Proctor Academy

July 3

Annual Library Book Sale: (For Andover residents only) 5 to 7 PM at Stone Chapel at Proctor Academy

July 4

Andover 4th of July Celebration: Village Green, parade at Noon

Andover Library Public Book Sale: 7:30 AM - 2 PM, Stone Chapel at Proctor Academy

July 7

Andover High School Reunion: 10 AM at Highland Lake Grange Hall in E. Andover

Summer Reading Program Activity: 10 AM at Andover Public Library

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