



Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY
ABINGTON, MA 02351

**Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2014
6:30 p.m.
Cotter Room**

Members present: Mike Franey, Ken Coyle, Andy Burbine, Tom Dion

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Public Announcements:
 - Deb Grimmert, Library Director, provided an update of the Calendar of Events for Abington Reads, 2014 (attached)
 - Board of Selectmen presented Russ Wheatley with Abington's Best Award (attached) There were many friends in attendance to honor Russ.
- Public Appointments:

6:40 p.m. – Transfer of Common Victualer License, 34 Brockton Avenue, China Eatery –Fang Li requests a transfer from Sarah Wang. There are no other changes in operation.

M/Burbine to approve transfer of common victualer license contingent upon final inspections

S/Dion

Voted 4-0

- Action/Discussion items:
 1. Discussion on the vacancy for the Abington Director to the South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation. The Board of Selectmen has extended the deadline to Friday, February 28, 2014. All applicants must submit a statement which sets forth in clear and specific terms the qualifications which he/she holds for the position. The appointment will be made on Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Abington Little League Parade, Saturday, April 26, 2014 – Mr. Robert Dursin, President, Abington Little League requests approval of the annual Little League Parade beginning at 11:00 a.m., April 26, 2014.

M/Burbine to approve parade

S/Dion

Voted 4-0

3. Town Manager Report – Town Manager presented a general update. (attached)
4. Public Comment (none)

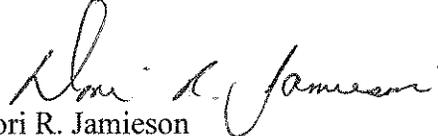
M/Dion to adjourn

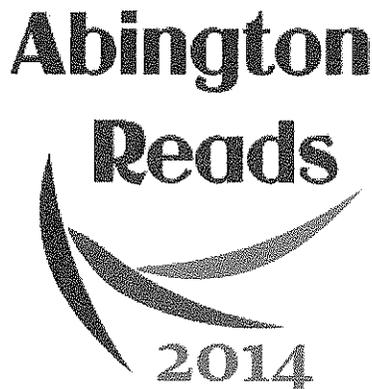
S/Burbine

Voted 4-0

Meeting adjourned: 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Dori R. Jamieson
Assistant Town Manager



Abington Reads is a community event sponsored by the Abington Public Library. During February and March join us in reading *Defending Jacob* by William Landay. This novel is a gripping legal thriller, dealing with questions about parenting, nature vs. nurture, and personal and professional ethics. Abington Reads is brought to you with State Aid to Public Libraries funds, and with funding provided by the Friends of the Library.

Abington Reads 2014 Calendar of Events

Wed. Feb. 12 at 7:00 PM

Historian Gary Hylander. Lecture focusing on *The Lindbergh Case*.

Wed. Feb. 19 at 7:00 PM

Non-Fiction Book Club facilitated by Will Adamczyk discusses *The Ride* by Brian MacQuarrie.

Sat. Feb. 22 at 2:00 PM

Think Tank Forensic Science program. This program is for teens.

Thurs. Feb. 27 at 6:45 PM

Movie. *12 Angry Men*. This is a black and white legal drama from the 1950's. Unrated.

Tues. Mar. 4 at 7:00 PM

Historian Christopher Daley. *Mass Murder* – lecture focusing on Massachusetts murder cases.

Sat. Mar. 8 at 2:00 PM

Movie. *We Need to Talk about Kevin*. This is a Golden Globe nominated movie with parallels to *Defending Jacob*. Rated R.

Thurs. Mar. 13 at 7:00 PM

Chef Ellie Deaner presents *Cooking with Mystery Ingredients*. This program is for adults and high school aged teens. Registration is required and begins on Feb. 27.

Sat. Mar. 15 at 2:00 PM

Movie. *The Bad Seed*. This is a classic thriller from the 1950's with parallels to *Defending Jacob*. Unrated.

Wed. Mar. 19 at 7:00 PM

Non-Fiction Book Club facilitated by Will Adamczyk discusses *A Civil Action* by Jonathan Harr.

Thurs. Mar. 20 at 7:00 PM

Discussion of *Defending Jacob* facilitated by Deborah Grimmert. Adults and Teens.

Mon. Mar. 24 at 1:00 PM

Author William Landay visits Abington High School. Event for AHS students only.

Mon. Mar. 24 at 7:00 PM

Author William Landay speaks at the Abington Public Library.

ABINGTON'S BEST
RUSSELL A. WHEATLEY
Presented
February 24, 2014

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley has been a life-long resident of the Town of Abington, becoming "King of the Hill" at the Center School in his early school days;*

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley started his surveying and engineering business over 40 years ago in the Town of Abington;*

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley has participated in many projects for the Town over the years, working with Highway Superintendents Norbert Fredett, Richard Burns and Kenan Connell on the Abington Center and North Abington Center Improvements Projects, Lincoln Street and Hancock Street Sidewalk Projects, Lincoln Boulevard layout and the Gliniewicz Way layout;*

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley has also been involved in other Town projects – the John B. Reilly Track and Soccer Field, the new Memorial Baseball Field, lights at the Memorial Field, the Nisby Bandstand, Abington Girls Softball fields, the Griffin's Farm Project and the Abington Senior Center;*

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley has been a sponsor of Abington Youth Soccer, the Abington School "Job Shadow" Program, as well as the Abington Summer Concerts and the Abington Greenwave Boosters;*

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley is an accomplished photographer and served on the Tricentennial Committee, providing the Anniversary Billboard Poster as well as many other photographs in the 300th Commemorative Book. He is also a member of the Mt. Vernon Cemetery Committee, and has been a judge for the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade;*

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley founded the Ruby M. Wheatley Art Scholarship which is given every year to a graduating high school senior;*

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley had the good sense to marry the lovely Phyllis Philbrick of Nashua, New Hampshire;*

WHEREAS: *Russell A. Wheatley has added "author" to his list of civic and personal accomplishments, writing a book of memoirs about his experiences growing up in Abington called "Nobody Else Cares, But I Do", and is an avid golfer;*

WHEREAS: Russell A. Wheatley is widely recognized for his professionalism, his calm demeanor, and his commitment to the Town of Abington – a true gentleman and a true Abingtonian!

Now, therefore, we, the Abington Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town of Abington and its residents, recognize with gratitude and appreciation the dedication, commitment and many contributions that Russell Wheatley has made to the Town of Abington, making it a better place for us all to live and making him one of Abington's Best.

Board of Selectmen

Michael W. Franey, Chairman

Kevin R. Donovan

Thomas J. Dion III

Kenneth M. Coyle, Vice Chair

R. Andrew Burbine



Town of Abington

500 GLINIEWICZ WAY
ABINGTON, MA 02351

TO: BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FROM: TOWN MANAGER
DATE: February 21, 2014
SUBJ: GENERAL UPDATE

The following is meant to be a general update of activities of the Town Manager and staff. Should any member desire more information regarding any particular matter please contact me personally.

1. Financial – The budget meetings with the Finance Committee continue on schedule. While many departments have outlined the desire for additional staffing, etc, there is an understanding that FY 15 is not shaping up to be a year when there will be the opportunity to fund additional staff requests. Currently the FINCOM is scheduled to conclude their budget discussions the first week of March and it is my intent to provide a budget proposal almost immediately following.
2. Old Colony Planning Council – Per my prior update OCPC has approved the two technical assistance requests from the town: 1. Guide to Doing Business in Abington (and info for homeowners seeking permits); and 2. Green Community consultation services.
3. Peer to Peer project - This project is that in which the state funds approximately 40 hours of consulting services from a professional “peer”. This will begin next Wednesday and is intended to map out a strategy to address the issue of community aesthetics, etc. In my previous communications on this matter I have suggested that this may likely include recommendations pertaining to the towns sign and other by-laws, etc. If anybody wishes to discuss further let me know.
4. Veteran’s Service District – The Board of Selectmen in Whitman will be considering the draft application on Tuesday night with the expectation of approval. And, for the benefit of all I thought it best to provide a copy of that email (attached).
5. Human Resources Audit – Our Human Resources consultant through the UMASS Collins Center has now met with most departments that maintain records and will shortly be having a wrap up meeting with me and Dori to discuss a preview of the recommendations that we can expect to see in her report.
6. March meetings – We have our Landfill engineering consultant Steven Wright and a representative from our Audit firm set up to meet with the Board in March. It is likely that both meetings will be on March 24.
7. School DOE Audit – I have been asked to be carve out time early afternoon on March 4 for discussions with a representative of the state Dept. of Education for the purpose of the DOE conducting a routine audit. The Chairman or another member of the Board may be asked to participate in the same so either me or Peter Schafer may be contacting a member(s) of the board regarding the same.