

# Civic group re-elects slate, adds new director

\$10,000 raffle winner named; non-profit status item approved

By Paul Gauvin  
pgauvin@barnstablepatriot.com

The Centerville Civic Association added a new board member, re-elected all officers, heard a financial report and several others in about five minutes of time Monday night at the South Congregational Church on Main Street.

"We finished our business session last year in five minutes," said president Peter Fisher, who challenged himself and several other report givers to try to meet that goal again - which they did, give or take a minute or two.

The meeting began at about 7 p.m. and while the business session was brief, guest speakers Schools Supt. Dr. Patricia Grenier and Assistant Town Manager Paul Niedzwiecki gave interesting talks that kept some 60 people glued to their seats until shortly after 9 p.m.

The night's final order of business was to select the winner of a lottery that raised \$20,000 for a Korea-Vietnam memorial at the village's Veterans

Memorial Park, which will be dedicated on Memorial Day said treasurer Steve Luciano.

In a solemn prelude to the drawing, Luciano called for a moment of silence



PAUL GAUVIN PHOTOS

**BEACH HO** - Lindsey Counsell of the town's Growth Management Department explains proposed steps to clarify a simmering issue of access to Long Beach during the annual meeting of the Centerville Civic Association Monday night.

for Centerville's first Iraq War fatality, Sgt. Alexander Henry Fuller, who leaves his young wife, Anastacia, 19, bearing their first child.

State Rep. Demetrius Atsalis picked the name of Mark Stanley, appropriately from ticket stubs kept inside a soldier's helmet. When Stanley's name was called, somebody from the audience yelled: "He just left." Luciano called him by cell phone there and then to give him the news he had won \$10,000.

Re-ected as directors were Jack Pendergast and Maria Blauner, terms ending in 2009, and elected was new director Carol McNulty, term ending in 2008. They join current directors Jayne Cedeno, Jan Sauro, Bob Schulte, Patrick Clark, Margaret Hill and J P. Joakim.

Re-elected were Fisher, president; Roy Richardson, 1st vice president; Doug Warren, 2d vice president; Gale Green, secretary, and Luciano, treasurer.

Luciano previously reported the activity account balance of \$3,200, that \$4,000 was left in the Christmas Stroll Fund and that the veterans memorial fund was at \$30,700 "minus the \$10,000" that went to the raffle winner.

Members also adopted an article stating the association's mission and clarifying its status as a non-profit so that it can benefit from time to time from donations/grants for some of its community services such as the Christmas Stroll, July 4 parade, Children's Field Day and others.

Jeanne Remmers of the group's families fund said the fund had \$4,800 "and change" to spend this year. "We serviced 19 families with 37 children" by giving them turkeys and other foods, Christmas trees, \$250 gift cards," The funds come from individual and group donors who, Remmers said, know of the work the group does.

Mary Quickel thanked all those who supported the association's beautification committee while Richardson reported the Old Home Days would be from Aug. 4-12 this year. He also asked for a round of applause - and got it - for Fisher's work during the past years, his willingness to again be association president and giving the

group "a lot of sparkle and getting things done."

Fisher accepted his re-election with this private comment: "When you're a politician, your goal is to get re-elected. When you are president of an association like this, your goal is to find a replacement."

Evidently, Fisher didn't find one this year and by the way, the coffee and six or seven types of yummies baked by association members were delicious, that from a woman who said she tried them all.



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**WHAT WAY?** – The sign says it's the public way to water but it looks like somebody's private lawn. Actually, there is supposed to be a definable 40-foot road there. A new town plan would define a walkway.