

Squibnocket Pond District Advisory Committee (SPDAC) Appointment Procedure **DRAFT**

June 2015

The Town bylaws (section 12.5.A) require that the Town establish a Pond Advisory Committee for the Squibnocket Pond District, and that the size, membership and appointing authorities of that body be decided by the Planning Board, the Conservation Commission, the Board of Health and the Selectmen.

Although it does not appear that an administrative procedure has been formally adopted to give effect to this bylaw, a Pond Advisory Committee has been operating for some time with members representing various relevant disciplines/constituencies. The Committee presently has 8 members.

Because the Pond Advisory Committee appears to be functioning well, with one exception, no change in the representation/membership or size of the committee is proposed at this time. Currently the members 'representing' the property owners in the District volunteer but are not appointed by any authority, as there is no association or other organization representing the District which could operate as an appointing authority. Accordingly, it is proposed that the members representing the property owners of the District be appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

Also note that a committee comprised of an even number of members (8) is perhaps not ideal, but the Committee has primarily supervisory and advisory functions and no real decision-making authority. If an issue arises in the future, the procedure can be amended so that the committee comprises 7 or 9 members.

The following is the recommended procedure:

The Squibnocket Pond District Advisory Committee (SPDAC) shall be comprised of 8 members as follows:

- 3 members appointed by the Board of Selectman
- 1 member appointed by the Board of Health
- 1 member appointed by Historic Commission
- 1 member appointed by Planning Board
- 1 member appointed by Conservation Commission
- 1 member appointed by the Martha's Vineyard Garden Club

At least two of the Board of Selectmen's appointees should be property owners in the Squibnocket Pond District (preferably one from the southern part of the district, i.e. Squibnocket Farms, and one from the northern part of the district.) The third Board of Selectmen appointee and all other SPDAC appointees need not be a member of the appointing authority, but should represent the appointing authority's interests.

Appointment shall occur in May of each year to take effect from 1 June of that year.