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Peaks Island Times : Mar 1978

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SOMEBODY ELSE

There's a clever young fellow named Somebody Else;
There's nothing that fellow can't do.
He's busy from morning till late at night, just substituting for you.
You're asked to do this, or asked to do that,
And what is your reply? "Oh, why pick on me, Get Somebody Else;
He'll do it much better than I."
You've a worn out excuse on the tip of your tongue,
Too busy, too something—other
When really the truth of the matter is
You simply don't want to bother.
So much to do in this weary old world,
So much, and the workers so few;
And Somebody Else is all tired and worn,
Just substituting for you.
"Tis time that this faithful old Somebody Else
Gets a much needed vacation;
Suppose you start substituting for him
And build up your own reputation.

Next time you're asked to do something worthwhile
Just give them this ready reply
"If Somebody Else can give time and support
My Goodness, then so can I."
You'll be surprised how much joy you will find
By helping wherever you can; Of course you'll get weary and tired and worn,
But you'll be a better woman or man.

--Lew Byers, Canton Pioneer

Anyone wishing to submit their own original poetry to the Poets Corner, please see that we receive it by the 20th of the month. - Ed.
Dear Editor:

We receive our Peaks Island Times and look forward each month to keep in touch with this lovely little island.

We have a summer cottage on The island which we enjoy from April till the last of October—which means bringing in our own water problems after Oct. 15th.

We live in a little town Dudley, MA just below Worcester. Earl and I enjoy our ice fishing on our local ponds and rivers. It is a tie between our ocean fishing at Peaks or at home in Dudley.

We also do a lot of exploring, walking through the beautiful country woods at home. Earl also has a bug on scouting where the deer have their runs, and also where they go.

We are very comfortable in our little home in Dudley, but look forward to Spring and Peaks again.

We heard rumors last fall that they were planning on taking away Peaks police protection, which we do not agree with—has anything been done further on this?

Sincerely,

Earl and Dot Krueger

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**Letter's To The Editor**

**Profile Theatre Company**

PRESENTS:

**SCHOOL FOR WIVES**
by Moliere

FEB. 10 - MAR 12

**WAITING FOR GODOT**
by Samuel Beckett

MAR 17 - APR 16

Performances will begin at 8:00PM sharp Thursday through Saturday. Tickets for Thursdays and Sundays are $4.50 ($3.50 for senior citizens and students with I.D.'s) For Fridays, they are $5.00, and for Saturday, $5.50. Also offered are: a free admission program for elderly, handicapped, and low income Portland theatre goers. Group rates are available for all performances and house sales to clubs and organizations for benefits and special events can be obtained for any afternoon or evening except Friday and Saturday nights. Call for more info: 774-0465 and reservations.

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**Health Center News**

If enough islanders are interested, the Health Center would like to arrange 5 or 6 night classes on popular medical topics to be held this April and May. Topics in mind are nutrition, medicines in the home, dental health, how to handle minor medical emergencies in the home, child psychology, and cardiac-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). These would be 2-3 hour presentations by specialists in each field.

If you would like to attend any of the sessions, please contact the Health Center (871-2801).

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**VETERINARIAN**

We hope to see the veterinarian on the island again in March. Watch for posters giving the time and date.

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**Island Away Distributors**

Dick and Ellen Klain—sell quality soap products at reasonable prices. The products can be personally delivered. If interested, contact Ellen & Dick Klain, Island Avenue, 766-3344
Why Don't They Do Something?

All too often "they" won't or can't simply don't—until it is too late if at all. Rather than affirmative, constructive, and sure progress toward genuine solutions, governmental response seems always to be of the knee-jerk variety. Frequently it is reluctant and inappropriate, intended as a clumsily superficial treatment of symptoms, not problems. Sometimes it is harmful, as a potentially powerful force acting blindly can be, perhaps creating problems worse than that being "corrected". The tendency is to have such "solutions" developed for us or to us, the citizens, and certainly not with us. Control over those decisions which directly and greatly affect all of us has gradually been taken in many subtle and some flagrant ways—by those more than willing to have it. All of us as citizens will be paying for that mistake for a long time to come.

But perhaps it is still possible to reverse at least halt the corrosion of citizens' rights and integrity. The ultimate "authority". After all, every community which can geographically hold such an authority at arm's length has much going for it. Some promising evidence of effective citizen input to governmental decisions has recently been embodied in the creation and working of the Water Quality Study Committee and the Community Building Study Committee, both of which had their genesis in overwhelming public demands to be allowed participation in their community's affairs. Still more evidence can be seen in what is perhaps a universally (on Peaks Island, at least) recognized need for some sort of general assembly or "town meeting" for all, not some, of the island's residents. While this approach should not in itself be viewed as a solution, it can provide a fair and effective means by which concrete solutions can be derived. The Town Meeting should be seen as a process which provides a free, open, and unrestricted forum which can be used to improve communication among ourselves, between us and "them", and lend a measure of clout to the islanders' perspective of island problems when government agencies consider "solutions". If this town meeting process is to work at all, it must welcome participation by all residents regardless of race, creed, national origin or organizational affiliation. Its strength is the community. And of course there are, and hopefully always will be, differences of opinion. The initial stages of the assembly's formation will be unsuited and perhaps rough at times, but there is nothing intrinsically wrong with that. Because what really matters is that the community will be taking new and bold steps toward a rebirth of democratic self-determination. There is something encouraging about a reaffirmation of those timeless ideals, which are our most important heritage, in our own time.

Whether town meetings are held and/or representatives are elected depends upon the active interest and participation of all of us. The questionnaire accompanying this issue of the Peaks Island Times is offered as the initial method of reaching to all corners of this island in an honest effort to measure the full scope and depth of our diverse community's opinions. We have all seen questionnaires in the past. To some perhaps they are a boorish nuisance—but please remember that this time it's our questionnaire, to be used only for our community's benefit. And its importance cannot be overstated, for it can reveal the real extent of community interest in this project as well as the path that should be followed. The period of the next few weeks from now through that first meeting in March may well be the most important for all residents of this island in a very long time. It signifies the real social challenge confronting all small communities living somehow in the dominant shadow of a larger parent community—whether city, state or nation. If the ordeal of community problems—those both found in the community and presented to it by the actions of its parent—is to be coped with successfully, the community itself must have the will and ability to act cohesively. It must be able to respond with confidence and sound judgment to a growing confusion of needs and events. Its success will depend upon a healthy blend of intimate familiarity with those problems and sincere interest in their resolution. And who has more of that than we do?

Steve Roberts

CAN YOU HELP?
The students at the Cliff Island School are trying to acquire equipment for their school by sav Campbell soup or other Campbell product labels. Please send any label surplus to:
Cliff Island School
Cliff Island, ME

DANCING SCHOOL

TAP  JAZZ  BALLET

PERSONALIZED INSTRUCTIONS

FOR ALL AGES

DAY AND EVENING CLASSES

INSTRUCTOR

TEL. 766-2727 DOREEN MccANN
On January 22, 1978 a meeting was scheduled to discuss the feasibility and advisability of setting up a Town Meeting for Peaks Island. Due to the storm, a breakdown in the furnace at the 5th Maine and the difficulty of obtaining another meeting place on such short notice, the meeting was cancelled. This article and the following questionnaire aim to fulfill the goals of that meeting - to gather from all islanders their ideas and comments on the proposal of a Town Meeting. Any Town Assembly must rely upon the willingness of the community to participate by the act of self-expression.

Originally, those who have worked to formulate this proposal started as a small group meeting over coffee to talk about our mutually-experienced frustration at the difficulty in communicating and making input to the city and state legislators who constantly make decisions impacting Peaks Island without our input. As this small group talked with friends and neighbors, interest grew so that many islanders have played a part in the following proposal.

As if to emphasize the need for some mechanism to break the frustration at the difficulty in communicating, Mayor Bruce Talianto, in a January meeting focusing on the Public Safety Building, proposed the formation of a group made up of representatives of the island organizations and volunteers to decide what the island wants in terms of a "building". Whether this group will become an actuality, how effectively it will function, and how wide and long range its focus will be remain to be seen. The risk is that even if successful in making decisions over a Public Safety Building the group may disperse and again we will be left with a void. It is clear that some guarantee that we will be heard is needed.

The following outline aims to share with you the framework for two ideas that have evolved. The first is to have Town Meetings which would provide a regularly scheduled and completely free, open, and unrestricted forum for all islanders-whatever their concerns - to simply become more informed and/or participate in community action. The second idea is to elect island representatives whose role would be to share with city and state officials our needs and ideas as developed through Town Meetings, to serve as recipients of information for those organizations or individuals affected by island issues, and to take any action that it deems necessary and appropriate on a day-to-day basis. Let us emphasize that this is the framework of a proposal that is open to input, feedback and change. Any political "mechanism" is useful only in so far as it meets the needs of the islanders.

Following is the report representing the efforts of a Committee formed on December 4, 1977, outlining its ideas on how a Town Meeting could occur. This Report was to have been presented for discussion on January 22nd. We urge all islanders to respond with comment and suggestion - soon.

PEAKS ISLAND TOWN MEETING

COMMITTEE REPORT

I. Town Meeting - the congregation of a group of Peaks Islanders at an open meeting that has been well publicized. The need for creating at least such a basic forum has not yet been disputed. On this issue the discussion group was unanimous.
Need For: Although there are multiple organizations and "spontaneous groups" which establish around a given issue or need, there is currently no mechanism whereby all people of Peaks Island can come together to share information and make decisions on issues affecting them.

Purpose:

1. To share ideas, problems, concerns about things we want and need for the island.
2. To gain and share information about what is happening in the city, county and state legislative bodies that effects the island.
3. To poll the people so that we as islanders as well as city, county and state organizations will know where we stand on any given issue. The idea was raised that "absentee ballots" - if appropriate - be made available where possible so people who cannot attend a Town Meeting can be heard.
4. To provide some means of translating any resulting "island opinion" into specific and effective community-based action, so that "returning to the people their right to in-part social decisions which affect them" is made real.

When:

Several ideas were proposed but the majority opinion of the group was that twice yearly (winter and summer) would keep us on top of issues as well as make the Town Meeting available to the greatest number of people. The second most discussed timing was to have the Town Meetings occur on a quarterly basis. Three meetings per year was also proposed.

Where:

The 5th Maine Regiment Community Center is the most open and available; however, there is the present problem in the winter of a lack of toilet facilities. The School was seen as a good alternative since the facilities are excellent; however, currently islanders must go through the School Committee and pay for the custodial fees to use the facility.

How should the Town Meeting be designed, moderated, led?

This question is separated since ideas as to how this could work differ depending on whether the islanders choose to elect "representatives" as discussed in Part III or to work strictly through a Town Meeting.

If no "representatives" are to be involved in this process, the following ideas would apply:

Designing:

This would be accomplished by a group of people whose responsibility would be to:

a) publicize a Town Meeting
b) formulate an agenda, based on information received, that needs to be discussed
These individuals would volunteer or be elected by those assembled at the Town Meeting.

**Working:**

Special ad hoc or standing committees could be created from the general assembly in order to carry out detailed specific tasks under policy guidelines adopted by the assembly itself.

**Moderating:**

Several ideas were discussed; however, the one most often mentioned was that a moderator would be "elected" for a term to be decided at the Town Meeting. The role of the moderator would be to conduct the Town Meeting so that the agenda is covered; all individuals have a chance to express their opinions; and where indicated conduct a polling process so that islanders as well as city, state and county officials are aware of how people feel on any given issue.

If the choice is made not to adopt elected "representatives" discussed in Part III an additional role was suggested for the moderator. The moderator could be responsible for interfacing with the city council and other legislative bodies as indicated; that is, he/she would convey our opinions as indicated by polling at the Town Meeting and would be the recipient of information and issues going on in these bodies pertinent to the island.

**Recording:**

A recorder would be elected whose function it would be to maintain ongoing records of Town Meetings. This same person might also be responsible for the recording of other meetings—either of the "designing group", committee meetings, or, if Part III is chosen, of the meetings of the "Island Representatives".

**Calling a Town Meeting:**

If "Island Representatives" are not decided on, to convene a Town Meeting when an issue arises that cannot wait for a regularly scheduled Town Meeting, it could be at the request of the city, county, or state bodies; at the instigation of a defined number of islanders who have a need that requires community knowledge and/or action; or at the discretion of a formally designated committee.

**The Island Representative Concept**

The idea of electing a body of people was supported by a large number of people working on this proposal. There were varied ideas as to their role and responsibilities. This outline attempts to present the content of our discussions.

**Title:**

"Representative" or "Selectman" were the titles most frequently used.

**Need For:**

The Town Meeting would allow for the sharing of information among islanders; however, it was felt by many that to effectively interface with city, county,
and state bodies in both conveying our ideas and opinions and in keeping in touch with and on top of what they're doing that affects the island, a body of people be elected to fill this role.

Purpose:

1. It was generally presumed that these representatives would be responsible for transmitting information and results of polls taken to the city, county and state bodies.

2. It was generally presumed that we would work to have these representatives recognized by these officials as people to contact and relay information to on issues affecting the island.

3. These representatives would be responsible for maintaining pressure on officials for items important to the island and to follow-up on pending matters until a resolution was achieved.

4. If needed, the representatives would be responsible for convening emergency Town Meetings when an issue arose or a decision was needed that could not wait for a regularly scheduled Town Meeting.

Term of Office:

One or two year terms were the most frequent time periods discussed.

Number of Office-holders:

The numbers most frequently discussed were three and five however the goals were consistent; a small enough group convene easily and work efficiently yet a large enough group so the work could be carried out without an undue burden on any one person. It was felt that the scope of the role dictated more than one or two people and with more it was felt the island would have the benefit of a variety of views and interpretations as issues occur.

It must be pointed out that this outline of ideas for the Town Meeting concept for Peaks Island did not come easily and the time taken away from family and other interests must be noted. Those who worked on the discussions of these issues were: Bea Chapman, Russ & Shirley Edwards, Dan Hogan, Bruce Lincoln, Carl Hall, Peter Deane, Ted Lauritzen, Dough MacVane, Irene Murray, Steve Roberts, Jill Tiffany and Ed Williams. Note must also be made of the input received from Gretchen Hall, the Schensted's, the Haller's and Greg Scanlon. Our apologies for any omissions. As in any written document it is the risk of the author to misinterpret any statement made; however, that risk is gladly taken as long as the communication process and feeling of community are enhanced on Peaks Island.

Town Meeting Planning Committee

What problems do you have with parking near the waterfront on the mainland? What problems do your visitors have when they come to Portland and want to leave their cars on the mainland? In connection with the waterfront renewal, the question has been raised as to how many parking spaces are needed to meet the needs of the islanders. It might be helpful if we were to come up with examples of our specific problems.

Call Gretchen Hall - she will be glad to hear from you.

FLU -- G.I. TRACT

**Signs/Symptoms -- Flu**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nausea</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vomiting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diarrhea</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**How To Treat --** Use the usual cold treatment but if nausea or vomiting occurs:

1. Ice chips by mouth for at least 6 hours - the patient won't die for lack of food or drink - it is necessary to have his stomach get rested; ice chips give some liquid to prevent dehydration.

2. If able to retain ice chips may start on clear liquids - tea (no milk) room temperature ginger ale, or coke. Jello, bouillon, popsicles, and water may gradually increase to soft foods as nausea/vomiting decrease.

3. May give Kapectate or Pepto Bismal as directed once nausea and vomiting are in control.

4. No fruits or fruit juices for those with diarrhea, except for banana and plain yogurt if not vomiting. Diarrhea and vomiting are natural ways of ridding the system of bad bacteria. Plain yogurt replaces natural bacteria in the bowel system.

5. If after 48-72 hours there is no improvement a person can become dehydrated - skin dry - seek help.
Questionnaire

Collection boxes for these questionnaires may be available in Feeney’s, Abe’s, and Webber’s stores. Questionnaires also may be left with or mailed to Rob and Jill Tiffany at Centennial Avenue, telephone 6-2875; or care of the Peaks Island Times, P.O. Box 53, Peaks Island.

Please complete this questionnaire, including any comments you may have, and have it delivered on or before March 12, 1978.

Please note that this questionnaire is not intended to provide only rigid statistics. Rather, it is meant to reveal many individual aspects as well as general trends in public opinion on the subject. In no way will the results of this poll be used to replace your oral comment at the March 19 town meeting.

1. In your opinion, would town meetings/general assemblies of some kind be useful for Peaks Island?
   If so,
   In what way would they be useful?
   Would you attend such a meeting if one were held?
   How often should such meetings be held?
   Where do you feel would be the best location for such meetings?
   What issues should be discussed at the first such meeting?

2. If a Town Meeting/General Assembly is favored by Peaks Islanders, would you be interested in working
   ---on its design
   ---on publicizing it?

3. Do you favor one of the concepts as presented in the Committee Report appearing in this issue of the Times?
   If yes, which one?
   (please explain)

4. If you favor the "representative" concept,
   How should they be elected?
   What should their relationship to the town meeting be?
   How long should the term of office be?
   How should they function independently of the town meeting?

5. If you favor a town meeting/general assembly but do not favor elected "representatives",
   Who should be responsible for convening, publicizing, and drawing up an agenda for the meetings?

   How should meetings be structured?

Please use the rest of the page for Comments about the TOWN MEETING:
CHILD CARE CENTER EXCURSION!
The 9:35 on January 4 carried the most significant of the Peaks Island residents to Portland for one of the most important activities to mark that date. From my seat near the window I tried to count these important people. Twelve, Maybe? Fifteen? I finally established that there were eighteen of them. One was on a pile of blankets on the deck at the end, joined sometimes by another, with one of the adult shepards assuming similar level on the deck. Others were in laps placed at strategic intervals among the children.

It was the child care group on their way to the new Cape Elizabeth museum where the rule is that you handle everything you want all you want. I don't believe all 24 of the party crowded into the vehicle I saw some getting into the rear of!

They were back on the dock for the noon boat soon after I arrived. Each one received a celluloid pin on his jacket to show where he'd been. And the shepards took turns carrying the trophy they brought back to the Center by which to remember the day...a three dimensional one foot each way structure to which each would remember having contributed. Only...the free form structure brought back so proudly actually was the work of a previous group of visitors. The glue on the Peaks Island group's was still too wet for carrying. They had put one together for tomorrow's visitors.

They are the people for whom we adults are beating our brains out to arrive at viable communication among ourselves and with the City of which we and they are a part. Maybe it would help if we realized that the Child Care Center is the result of the sort of communication and relationship that we are seeking in other areas of our island life.

Gretchen Hall