

(RePAC)

Rehoboth Public Access Corp. Inc

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June 10, 2010

Board of Selectmen
Town of Rehoboth
148R Peck Street
Rehoboth, MA 02769


Re.: Record Keeping and Broadcasting of Public Meetings by RePAC
M.G.L.c. 39, §§23A, 23B, 23C, and 24, as Amended (Public Records and Open Meeting).

On May 19, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., the Rehoboth Planning Board (the "Board") held a meeting for a public hearing concerning a groundwater Special Permit, 10-01GWSP, for Camp Ramsbottom (see Attachment). The Board did not provide RePAC either an agenda or public notice of said meeting. Nevertheless, Rehoboth Public Access Corporation (RePAC") recorded the meeting. The applicant for the Special Permit did not appear before the Board at the scheduled time and the Board continued the public hearing until 8:00 p.m.. RePAC broadcasted the public hearing, i.e., the portion of the Board meeting from about 7:00 p.m. until about 8:00 p.m., on the Government Access Channel (Channel 9) The May 19, 2010, Board meeting can be viewed in its entirety on RePAC's website at www.repac9.org. Copies of the recorded meeting, in form of DVD, are available to the public from RePAC.

RePAC is guided by the definition of "meeting" suggested in M.G.L.c.39, §23A, as amended, as "any corporal convening... in order to make a decision at which any public business or public policy matter over which the governmental body has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power is discussed or considered... ." RePAC does not consider political campaigning or the use of a public hearing as a political forum to be part of a "meeting" as contemplated under M.G.L.c.39, §23A. RePAC will avoid live broadcasts of political campaigning and the use of government meetings as thinly veiled political forums on the Government Access Channel. Political campaign speeches and the use of government meetings as thinly veiled political forums are programs for appropriate broadcasting on RePAC's soon to be activated Public Access Channel.

To assure continued coverage of government meetings and public hearings, everyone is respectfully reminded that complete broadcasting of such meetings is conditioned on RePAC receiving timely notices of the public hearings, agenda of the government meetings, and the location/time of the government meetings at least 24 hours prior to such meetings and which can be transmitted to RePAC via e-mail at webmaster@repac9.org.

Sincerely yours,


Roger Breault, Chairperson

cc.: All Rehoboth Boards, Commissions, Committees, Agencies, and School Superintendent