

W. T. PLANNING BOARD MEETING, DECEMBER 8, 2008, 7:30 P.M.

PRESENT: David Douglas, Ginny Jones, Susan Silva, Leah Smith

ABSENT: Eileen Maley

ALSO PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING: Cynthia Aguilar, Ashley Hunter, Nina Meyer, Ann Bassett, Bill Venno, Simone DeSorcy

MINUTES

Minutes of the 12/01/08 meeting were approved as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

In: Paul Adler re. wind turbine noise

NEW BUSINESS

Byways Committee: The Byways Committee distributed a draft leaflet entitled “West Tisbury Ancient Ways” indicating walking paths in town. Chairman Ann Bassett said the map will be replaced by one being developed by the MVC. Ginny said the pamphlet is a good idea. She suggests requiring that dogs be kept on a leash. She said it should be clarified over whom horses have a right of way (vehicles? walkers? bicyclists?). She said people should be reminded to wear orange/red clothing if walking during hunting season.

David noted that many of the roads indicated in the Motts Hill/Redcoat area are actually just driveways to local farms and private residences, and not historic roads. They are driven on as access roads to these private properties. He asked what was trying to be accomplished by including these roads. Ann Bassett said that people, some of them neighbors, walk on these roads every day. Some connect to Land Bank properties.

Leah said in Chilmark there is a policy that horseback riders clean up after their horses on trail rides along protected paths. Susan said people should pick up after their dogs. There was a discussion re. the logistics/importance of cleaning up after one’s horse. It was suggested that the Horse Council educate horse people on the etiquette of leaving trails manure-free.

Ann Bassett distributed proposed changes to Edgartown’s special ways regulations dated 12/13/07. She said Edgartown’s regulations should be compared to West Tisbury’s. David wondered whether creating the special ways zone 20 feet on either side of the center line was some sort of taking. Bill Venno said that W.T.’s guidelines were from 1975. He said that on small lots, the 20-foot measurement can represent a lot of a property owner’s land.

Bill Venno and Simone will work together to compare the 2 sets of guidelines.

Breese Veterinary Clinic: It has come to Board members’ attention that Dr. Breese is performing surgery on animals at her office; this use is prohibited in the Village Residential District per the zoning bylaw. It was Board members’ understanding that the ZBA special permit allows only for the veterinarian’s clerical office, not as a clinic to treat/operate on animals. It is a direct zoning violation. Further, Board members are not

aware that the property has the infrastructure on site to protect the septic system and groundwater from medical waste and other hazards, as another vet in town was required to install. This could be especially hazardous to nearby Tisbury Great Pond. The Board directed Simone to draft a letter to the Zoning Inspector and Health Agent brining this violation to their attention.

Priester's Pond: Board members noted that there seems to be a temporary structure at the edge of the Priester's Pond property, close to State Road, that is highly lit at night. There is glare as drivers pass. The Zoning Inspector should be requested to look into this.

OLD BUSINESS

Noah's Ark Bed and Breakfast: Leah said that she had studied the ad for renting Noah's Ark; there are far more bedrooms advertised than a one-acre parcel could handle legally. The Zoning Inspector and Health Agent should be notified

Zoning Bylaw Change: Noisy Pool Equipment: Susan said she would like to see some new language in the bylaw requiring owners of pools to site noisy equipment away from neighbors. David said he would not like to see a requirement that the equipment be underground; his pool equipment is underground, which has caused serious complications mechanically.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Simone DeSorcy, administrator

Approved 12/22/08