

West Tisbury Byways Committee

Minutes, May 16, 2016

Present: Cynthia Aguilar, Harriet Bernstein, Ashley Hunter, Shirley VanDerSchueren, Rez Williams.

Also Present: Bill Veno (MVC), Lisa Amols, Kate Upton, Jo-Ann Taylor (MVC).

Following a previous site visit by the committee to Manters Path, four options were reviewed for access to the Sheriffs Meadow (Vincent) field including Manters Path. It was agreed to proceed with Special Way designation for Manters Path including the section barely visible that connects to Scrubby Neck Path. Lisa said that Manters Path neighbors have hired an attorney to examine SMF's rights of access over the Path. Bill indicated that if Manters Path is designated a Special Way, SMF will choose another access.

The case for nomination has to be made to the MVC. This would include its link to Scrubby Neck Path, already designated, as well as the entire length of Manters Path and not just a portion. It's use as a property border on various surveys is another strong factor. Landowners granting easements over the path, would also improve chances for nomination. Jo-Ann listed four parameters for MVC nomination as a Special Way: 1) a path needs protection, 2) it is in a logical planning area, 3) there is no other safety net beyond MVC designation against alteration or obliteration, 4) other historical qualifications.

Harriet will fine tune a letter to property owners of Manters Path for the next meeting.

Jo-Ann will forward to committee members a synopsis of the open meeting law conference that was held at Cornell Theater in Vineyard Haven.

It was announced that the M.V.L.B. has signed an agreement with the Selectmen for management plans for Chickmoo Path and Stoney Hill Path.

Discussed whether Chickmoo or Checamo is correct. We agreed that the spelling should match the Town map.

Cynthia did a presentation of her work-in-progress historic map.

Minutes of April meeting were approved.

Next meeting June 13, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Rez Williams