2022 Annual Report

To the Board of Select Board:

In 2022, things in the West Tisbury Town Hall were pretty much back to normal except that most public meetings are still being held via Zoom.

Individual members continued their roles as appointees to other committees. Peter Rodegast serves as the Commission’s appointee to the West Tisbury Land Bank Advisory Board and Angela Luckey serves on the Community Preservation Committee. Donna Paulnock serves on the Climate Change Committee and the Mill Brook Watershed Management Committee.

In our work to administer the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town’s local wetlands bylaw, the following determinations of jurisdiction and permits (called Orders of Condition) were issued for projects in or near inland wetlands and coastal resource areas.

**Administrative Review:**

Map 5 Lot 2.2/ Deck replacement

Map 6 Lot 2/ 145 Obed Daggett Road/Stream status

Map 7 Lot 44/ Hazardous tree removal

Map 7 Lot 170/ Modification of beach stairs

Map 39 Lot 11/ Rooftop deck

**Determinations:**

Map 6 Lot 2/ stream status

Map 36 Lot 1/trail relocation

Map 36 Lot 43/replace retaining wall

Map 38 Lot 7.1

Map 43 Lot 18/driveway

**Orders of Conditions**

Map 1 Lot 15/SE79-430/ swimming pool

Map 1 Lots 19 & 56/SE432/ Replacement of Makonikey Beach stairs

Map 1 Lot 38/DEP File # SE79-439/beach stairs

Map 3 Lots 23, 25 & 27/DEP File#SE79-443/ burial of utility lines

Map 3 Lot 76.1/DEP File # SE79-445/swimming pool

Map 3 Lot 9.22/DEP File # SE79-442/single family dwelling addition

Map 7 Lot 57/DEP File # SE79-434/Demolition and reconstruction/single family dwelling

Map 8 Lot 2/DEP File # SE79-440Septic system upgrade

Map 12 Lot 33/ DEP File # SE79-429/Temporary construction access road

Map 15 Lot 7/DEP File # SE79-438/single family dwelling addition/ swimming pool

Map 35 Lot 1.9/DEF File # SE79-440/Dock

Map 39 Lots 7 & 8/Demolition and reconstruction/single family dwelling

Map 39 Lot 9/DEP File # SE79-43/plunge pool and rooftop deck

Map 43 Lot 1.2 DEP File # 79-436/Demolition and reconstruction/single family dwelling

Map 43 Lot 9/DEP File # SE79-437/guest house/swimming pool

**Amended Orders of Conditions:** None

**Appeals:** Map 6 Lot 2/ 145 Obed Daggett Road/Determination

**Enforcement Orders: None**

**Litigation:**

Map 31 Lot 48/ DCSC Docket 2174CV00030: Dismissed

**Extension Permits**: None

**Certificates of Compliance:**

Map 3 Lot 76.1/DEP File #SE79-387/Addition

Map 3 Lot 81/DEP File # SE79-261/ trails and boardwalks

Map 5 Lot 2.3/DEP File #SE79-299/ Septic System

Map 5 Lot 2.3/DEP File #SE79-408/Cottage renovation

Map 12 Lot 13/DEP File # 396/pasture restoration

Map 22 Lot 2.2/SE79-135/Addition

Map 22 Lot 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.12 and 4.14/ SE79-218/View Channels

Map 32 Lots 105, 105.1, 122 and 131/DEP File # S E79-269/Hydro-rake project

Map 35 Lot 1.2/ SE79-413/Certificate of Compliance/ Dock

**Water Withdrawal Bylaw Permits:** None

The second mission of a conservation commission spelled out in the enabling legislation for conservation commissions in Massachusetts is the development and protection of natural resources and the projects that protect the watershed resources of the town.

**Ongoing projects:**

**Map 3 Lot 91/Lambert’s Cove Beach path monitoring**: As always, thanks to Reid Silva and the staff of Vineyard Land Surveying & Engineering for continuing to monitor the elevation of the dune over which the path to Lambert’s Cove Beach crosses.

**James Pond:** The board continued to work with Johnny Hoy, the Herring Warden, and the Division of Marine Fisheries, to monitor a project to improve a herring run at James Pond. The Buzzards Bay Coalition and local land owners are pursuing a project to improve the outlet to James Pond. The MVC continues its work on monitoring water quality in James Pond.

**Wetlands Protection Bylaw Regulations:** The board has been working to create revisions to the Buffer Zone section of the bylaw regulations and a new section covering view channels. This work is ongoing.

**Blackwater Brook:** The Board met with DEP representatives to conduct site visits of farming properties along Blackwater Brook in an effort to begin working with the property owners to improve farming practices that will protect the water quality of Blackwater Brook.

**Tisbury Great Pond**: The Commission met with staff of the Great Pond Foundation for a presentation of the Ecosystem Monitoring Report for 2021.

**Conservation Restrictions**: Map 26 Lot 12/15 The Board approved a request by Sheriff’s Meadow Foundation to host a fundraiser on the south pasture of Nat’s Farm. There were no new conservation restrictions brought forward in 2022.

**Conservation Land Management:** The Commission also conducted monitoring site visits and addressed issues on properties covered by agricultural and conservation restrictions that are held by the Town and/or third-party conservation groups.

**Brandy Brow**: The Commission continues to monitor the condition of Brandy Brow and relies on the help of the Highway Department with mowing and fence mending.

**Map 18 Lot 1/Margaret K. Littlefield Greenlands**: The Land Bank continues to maintain the walking paths at Greenlands for the Town.

**Agricultural Preservation Restrictions:** Martha’s Vineyard Agricultural Society **(**Map 25 Lot 1.1). The town under the care of this board is a co-holder of the APR with Vineyard Conservation Society. Members participated in the review and approval process for events at this property. Members also reviewed and voted to support moving the Farmers Market to the Ag Hall property on a regular basis.

The Commission office also fielded numerous calls concerning jurisdiction over a variety of projects in the Buffer Zone and monitored the progress of ongoing construction projects.

The Commission will continue to hear applications under the Wetlands Protection Act and the West Tisbury Wetlands Protection Bylaw during regular meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 5:00 P.M. As of this writing, the Commission is still meeting via Zoom. We are waiting for legislation to be handed down from the Commonwealth as to the criteria for holding public meetings. By the time you read this report we may be meeting at town hall again.

Whit Griswold, Chair

Peter Rodegast, Vice Chair

Fred Barron, Member

Geraldine Brooks, Member

Angela Luckey, Member

Donna Paulnock, Member

Michael Turnell, Member

Maria McFarland, Board Administrator