

Approved 11/18/20
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
November 4, 2020 4:40 pm
Virtual meeting

Present: Selectmen Cynthia Mitchell, Skipper Manter, Kent Healy, Jen Rand

Also Present: Angie Gompert, Wendy Nierenberg, Wayne Smith, Robert Hauck, James Klingensmith, John Christensen, Linda Vadasz, Alexandra Pratt, Jane Rossi, Liz Argo, Paul Doherty, Angela Luckey, Maria Marasco, Alicia Nicholson, Lynn Hoeft, Susan Silk, Joe Tierney, Rich Saltzberg, Louisa Hufsteder, Suzanna Sturgis, Elaine Barnett, Janice Haynes

Cindy called the meeting to order at 4:40pm

Cindy asked about moving meetings back to 4:30 pm. Jen said fine by her and the MVTV rep chimed in to say it was ok with them. The next meeting will be scheduled for 4:30 pm.

Minutes: *Skipper made a motion to approve the minutes of October 21, Kent Seconded. Roll call vote; all in favor. Minutes of October 28th are under advisement.*

New Business: Items were taken out of agenda order to enable late comers to be present.

- **Cultural Council Appointment:**

Linda introduced Paul Doherty who introduced himself, spoke about moving to MV and his experience.

Skipper made a motion to appoint Paul Doherty to the Cultural Council for a 3 year term. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor

- **Conservation Commission Appointment:**

The Conservation Commission has recommended Angela Luckey for a 1 year Associate position. Angela introduced herself, said that she was also on The Mill Brook Management Committee and was looking forward to being involved with more conservation work.

Skipper made a motion to appoint Angela Luckey to a one year term on the Conservation Commission. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor

- **Library Trustees Appointment:**

It was determined that there was a quorum of Library Trustees present and Rob Hauck called their meeting to order. He said that they wanted to appoint Lynn Hoeft who was present.

Lynn introduced herself and spoke about her island history. The Library Trustees voted to appoint Lynn until the next election.

Skipper made a motion to appoint Lynn Hoeft to the Board of Library Trustees until the next election. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor

- **CVEC Presentation:**

Liz Argo and Maria Marasco introduced themselves as the reps of CVEC, the Cape & Islands Electric Cooperative, Inc. They are a sister organization of the Cape Light Compact. Their Mission is renewable energy and the grid. They spoke about initiatives and future projects. (See the Powerpoint presentation and report attached to the agenda for details) Skipper said that they were great with the work they have done and thanked them for the report. Cindy commended Jen for her work with CVEC as she is the West Tisbury Director.

- **VTA Charging Station:**

Angela Gompert explained that they are looking to install 2 in-ground chargers in West Tisbury. They have a Federal grant to fund the project. She would like to put together a group to investigate locations and said that in Edgartown the committee had included a rep from the Highway Dept., the Energy Committee, the Historic District Committee, Planning board and others. Angie pointed out that the biggest issue for the Town Hall location was the unsightliness of the cabinet for the battery storage. Skipper said the generators are pretty well screened by plantings and that it should work. He doesn't think they should make it too complicated. Cindy asked Jen to move forward with the project and for her and Angela to put their heads together to suggest members for a task force. Jen suggested, off the top of her head, Planning Board, Complete Streets, Preservation Trust, Highway Dept., Historic District, abutters, and citizens who may have concerns. She will advertise for interested people and ask for reps from the specific departments and committees mentioned.

- **VTA Draft Plan for Micro- Transit:**

Susanna spoke about the VTA plans for winter routes. They are proposing a kind of 'on demand' service, very much like the Lift where you call ahead to schedule a ride. It would apply for Aquinnah, Chilmark and the 'outer edges' of West Tisbury that are not on a regular fixed route. It is still in the draft stage; it will cost approximately \$5 per ride and will not be covered by bus passes. Skipper asked about the money appropriated at ATM to subsidize the VTA winter routes. Angie said that as things have changed since then, that money could perhaps be used to keep Sundays running on the Lambert's Cove Rd and North Rd route. Skipper thinks the VTA is on the right track and likes that it helps with the town's goal of reducing fossil fuels.

- **Complete Streets request for benches on Panhandle and Old County roads:**

Jane said that the Take A Break group has benches to be placed and they'd like to place 2 in West Tisbury. One would be at the West Tisbury School where the crosswalk is to the bike path and the other at the bus stop at the corner of Scotchman's and State Rd, across from the Agricultural hall. They are asking for permission from the Board. Cindy said it was a great project and thank you.

Skipper made a motion to allow the benches be placed at the locations mentioned. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor

- **Event Permit – Rug Sale at the Grange Hall Thanksgiving Weekend:**

Jen said it had been signed off on by the Board of Health and Police. The organizers may not even have the event and it could get shut down by the BOH but they want to have permits in place. They will comply with the Governor's regulations. It will be a low key event, maybe a 100 people total over the weekend.

Skipper made a motion to allow the event with the understanding that the Board of Health has the final say. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor

- **Serving Hands Food Distribution at the Ag. Hall:**

Jen said that it had been done there in the spring and they were requesting to do it again on 11/20/20. It would be from 1 pm until the food was gone and they expected possibly 250 people. Alicia said now that it's getting cold they couldn't do it at their location. The VCS has said its ok and Chief Mincone is fine with it too.

Skipper made a motion to allow the event at the Ag Hall. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor

Unanticipated Business:

Joe Tierney reported on an abandoned house that he had dealt with last year, but now the house is collapsing. A neighbor reported it to him and says that kids play on and around the property and there is a propane tank in the basement. Joe is requesting access to legal counsel as he had last year. At that time the owner was sent a letter and he complied with their requests to board up windows, etc. Jen pointed out that MGL allows the town to do what's necessary for safety. The town may have to spend funds to do something quickly and then see about getting the money back later.

Skipper made a motion to allow Joe Tierney as Building Inspector access to counsel. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor

Skipper wanted to thank Tara Whiting-Wells and all of the others involved with the election and early voting for a great team effort. Susanna said she was so impressed with Tara and her team.

Skipper said he had seen an email about the Affordable Housing Committee having meeting issues. Jen said they are working on it

Skipper also reminded folks that he still has turkeys available for people in need. They can call 508-693-3532

Correspondence:

- Kent Healy – Mill Pond Dam – Eversource wants to put in lines underground at the Mill Pond damn. He thinks it will be hard to do. He Jen and Richie (Superintendent of Streets) are meeting with them and will report.
- ZBA resignation letter from Nancy Cole. Skipper said they should send a letter of thanks.

Skipper made a motion to accept the resignation of Nancy Cole from the Zoning Board of Appeals with deep regret and appreciation. Kent seconded. Roll Call: all in favor

With no further business Skipper made the motion to adjourn. Kent second. Roll Call: all in favor.

Adjourned 5:54 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Janice Haynes, Administrative Assistant