

~Draft~
Town of West Tisbury
Select Board Meeting
Wednesday, February 14, 2024 4:30 pm
At the Town Hall and via Zoom

Present: Select Persons Jessica Miller, Skipper Manter, Cynthia Mitchell and Town Administrator Jen Rand

Also present or on Zoom for all or part of the meeting: Susanna Sturgis, Nicola Blake, Olman Delick, Sebastian, Jessica Shai, Tzvi Alperowitz, Prudy Burt, Thomas Humphrey, Eunki Seonwoo, Janice Haynes and other members of the public who did not speak.

Skipper called the Select Board meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Minutes:

• **January 31, 2024:**

There were no edits or corrections.

Jessica moved to approve the Minutes of January 31, 2024. Cindy seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

New Business:

• **Task Force Against Discrimination – Discussion about Committee Future:**

Susanna was here to explain that they have been meeting for 3 years and have concluded that the issues they have been dealing with are island wide. They have also been having trouble getting a quorum. They are wondering if it may be time to reconstitute with a different focus, or perhaps disband altogether and are wondering what the Select Board thinks. Cindy asked if they had an actual charge and Suzanna said they had been working based on the statement adopted by the board at the board. After discussion, the board decided to have Jen or Janice go thru the minutes and see how it all developed. It was taken under advisement to gather more info.

• **Event Permit – Jewish Cultural Festival 371 WT Rd, 7/22 3:00- 8:00 pm:**

All the sign-offs have been done excepting the BOH who won't until the event is closer, so this vote would be provisional. Rabi Alperowitz explained that they did the event last year in Chilmark and have found a new location in West Tisbury. He went on to speak about Jewish culture in general. Jessica Shai who is the event planner said they have plenty of space and she has been working with the Fire Chief to lay out the event. They have a police detail lined up. Skipper requested they take two votes.

Cindy moved to approve the Event Permit for the Jewish Cultural Festival 371 WT Rd, 7/22 3:00- 8:00 pm. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Cindy moved to appoint a 1 Day beer and Wine permit for the for the Jewish Cultural Festival 371 WT Rd, 7/22 3:00- 8:00 pm. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: Cindy and Jessica in favor, Skipper abstained as he believes it is not permissible under the present zoning bylaws. (2-0-1)

- **Vote to Sign the Election Warrant for Presidential Primary March 5th:**

There was no discussion.

Cindy moved to sign the Election Warrant for Presidential Primary March 5th Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

- **Discussion and Vote Whether to Remove: Non-Binding Ballot Question:**

Skipper said the school committee has decided to pull the applications to demolish the field and do it in tandem with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) process, which will bring major renovations to the whole school. He thinks the issue is still there, and the people should have a chance to say what they think. He also referenced the letters in support of keeping the questions on the ballot in correspondence. After discussion, the board decided they wanted to keep it on.

- **Town Admin Vacation Carry-Over 88 hours:**

No discussion.

Cindy moved to approve the Town Admin Vacation Carry-Over of 88 hours. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

- **MS Bike Ride 5/4/24 8:30-3:00:**

Jen explained that it's not an event in town because they are just passing thru, but a MA DOT sign off. No further discussion.

Cindy moved to approve the MS Bike Ride 5/4/24 8:30-3:00. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

- **Vote to Participate in the Community Development Block Grant:**

These are home improvement grants, and also child care grants. We apply under Edgartown's umbrella because West Tisbury is considered too wealthy.

Cindy moved to Vote to Participate in the Community Development Block Grant. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor

Topics Not Anticipated:

- Skipper announced that next week would be the interviews of two of the candidates for the Accountant position. The third will be the following week.

Old Business:

- **Update on the HVAC Project:**

Jen explained that the cost has gone up significantly. They realized they needed to add an OPM and now a new generator. She is still working on the wording for the article and ballot question. This will be in addition to the \$ 1.2 Million voted last year, for a total of \$ 2.7 million. Skipper asked about contingencies and Jen said yes, they have been figured in. She has concerns about people bidding on the project, having to travel to the island. Also, there is a huge delay getting generators, 18-24 months. After discussion it was decided to bump the amount we ask for up to \$ 1.8 million for a round \$ 3 million total.

Correspondence:

- R. Smith Re: Turf Ballot Question
- G. Jones Re: Turf Ballot Question
- P. Burt Re: Turf Ballot Question

Public Comment: There were none.

With no further business to discuss, Jessica moved adjourn the meeting. Cindy seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 5:13 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Janice Haynes
Administrative Assistant*