

Approved 5/22/19
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, May 1, 2019 4:30 p.m. – 5:25 pm

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

Also Present: John Cain, Richard Townes, John Christensen, Brian Dowd

Minutes: *C. Mitchell motioned to approve the minutes of 4/3/19. K. Healy seconded the motion. A roll call vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Aluia Housing Covenants: *K. Healy motioned to sign the Mortgage Discharge and the Covenants for the property at 20 Lottie's Lane. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Vineyard Transit (VTA) Bus Driver's Union: John Christensen said the drivers for the VTA had voted to form a union about 4 years ago. The company that the VTA hires to provide bus drivers (TCI) appealed the vote, the Labor Relations Board then took TCI to court to force them to comply. Negotiations have been slow and drawn out with little progress. The drivers are frustrated that the negotiations are being stalled on purpose, and that TCI does not follow their own written seniority policies. The drivers at this moment are at-will employees and can be fired without process. John said he had tried to speak with John Alley, who is appointed by the Selectmen and John didn't seem to have any knowledge of what was going on and he told John that it wasn't the Board's responsibility to oversee the drivers. Skipper said he couldn't remember the VTA Board's Charter so he wasn't sure if that was correct or not. John Ch. said he was asking the Selectmen to encourage TCI to complete negotiations and provide a contract to the drivers. Skipper said he supported the drivers, but wasn't sure he would be comfortable with all the language in the draft letter presented by John Ch. for the Board to sign. Kent agreed he would need to hear both sides before being comfortable accusing TCI of union busting. The Board agreed to send a modified letter and will invite John Alley in to discuss the issue with him as the Town's representative.

C. Mitchell motioned to send a letter as discussed and to arrange a meeting with the VTA representative John Alley. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Lambert's Cove Inn Entertainment License: Kent noted that his son-in-law worked for the Inn. Jen explained that the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) had expressed concerns last year that the events/weddings at the Inn fell under the special permit and should go to them first, Jen sent this year's request, the ZBA discussed it and sent a letter saying they were okay for 2019 with 9 weddings and 4 events but they were scheduling a meeting to make changes to the Special Permit to outline exactly what would be allowed moving forward. Skipper said he was concerned with the continued expansion of use at the Inn. Cindy noted this is not an expansion as last year they were granted more weddings than they have asked for this year.

C. Mitchell motioned to concur with the ZBA and allow 9 weddings and 4 events. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was CM & KH in favor, SM opposed.

Town Meeting Recap: Cindy said the plan to bring forward the reconsideration of the Housing Bank article was very successful and credited Jen for the work she did to make it happen. She said the debate on the floor was exemplary, she said the voters understood the town wants this but

it needs work to make it happen. Skipper said the next step should be to meet with the Affordable Housing Committee. Cindy said the voters clearly wanted the Board to also work with Representative Fernandes and Senator Cyr and the Planning Board. She suggested a separate meeting be held with all the interested parties including members of the Housing Bank Committee.

Appointments: *C. Mitchell motioned to approve the appointment list dated May 1, 2019 (attached). K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Cindy left the meeting here....

Blooming Bids for Kids One Day Beer & Wine: Skipper asked why they needed to serve alcohol. Jen said she didn't know, but the event has been held annually and the Board has always authorized this permit. Skipper said he didn't think it should be allowed on town property either. Jen said the town holiday party hosted by the Selectmen has beer and wine. Skipper said that was different because it wasn't being sold. Kent asked why the Board had to issue the permit. Jen said the law required it, and the voters chose to allow one day permits. Skipper said the Board didn't have to say yes, and the regulations say the request has to be made at least 60 days in advance. Jen said that has never been enforced. Skipper said it should be from here out. Jen said she needed the Board to develop some guidelines that would make it clear to applicants the circumstances that would result in a denial or approval of these permits. It should be a clear policy that applies to everyone.

S. Manter motioned to allow the one day beer and wine permit. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Access to Counsel: *K. Healy motioned to allow access to Counsel for the building department retroactively for the Sarita Walker matter. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

K. Healy motioned to allow access to Counsel for the Personnel Board to review the revised discrimination policy. S. Manter seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.