

Approved 7/7/21
Town of West Tisbury
Select Board Meeting
Wednesday June 30, 2021 4:30 pm
Via Zoom

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

Also present for part or all of the meeting: , Susan Silk, Barbara Silk, Omar Johnson, Kathy Logue, Nancy Weaver Bea Phear, Linda Vadaz, Cathy Minkiewicz, Pat Waring, Matt Gebo, Jane Slater, Betty Haynes, Kat Gilbert, James Klingensmith, Noah Asimow, Rich Saltzberg and other members of the public that did not speak.

Skipper called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm

Minutes to approve - June 16, 2021: There were no changes or edits offered.

Cindy made the motion to approve the minutes of June 16, 2021. Kent seconded. Roll Call Vote: all in favor.

New Business:

- **Status of Remote vs In-Person Select Board Meetings:**

Can legally meet remotely until April of 2022. Skipper thinks they do well with Zoom. Cindy would be happy continuing with Zoom and thinks it is more accessible, tho she doesn't love the platform. Kent would like a hybrid system. Jen is working on the hybrid, they are getting close. It was decided to continue in Zoom until the hybrid model is ready. Cindy suggested they do some meetings in person and some by Zoom.

- **Library Foundation Donation – Vote to Accept:**

The Library Foundation has sent them a check for \$60 thousand dollars restricted to the following categories of expenditures: programing, books, e-books, staff training, technology, landscape maintenance, and undesignated to be determined by the Library Director. Kathy Logue expressed concern about the undesignated part for bookkeeping purposes.

Cindy made the motion to accept with great gratitude the donation from the Library Foundation. Kent seconded. Roll call vote; All in favor.

Topics Not Anticipated:

- **The Vineyard Trust and Alleys:**

Cindy would like to hear from the Vineyard Trust as to why Alleys is still closed. It is now 'high season' and the place is shuttered. She thinks they should be invited to come speak to the Board and explain. Jen has already asked them but got an unsatisfactory answer. She will contact them to attend a meeting.

Old Business:

- **Employee Covid Vaccine Policy:**

Skipper started the conversation by saying that he sees two topics; Mask wearing and vaccination. He also pointed out that the Director of the Council on Aging cannot disclose vaccine status and cannot mandate her employees get vaccinated. It can only be done by the Select Board or the Board of Health. He said that the Select Board have been following the recommendation of the Board of Health all along and will continue to do so. Omar Johnson; Health Agent said that his Board had discussed the topic at their meeting last week and they strongly advise mask wearing in all public buildings. Susan Silk opposed the wearing of masks for seniors to exercise in Howes House and others chimed in to agree.

Cindy made the motion to mandate masks be worn in all Town buildings open to the public. Kent seconded. Roll call vote; All in Favor.

- On the topic of vaccines research has shown that it is legal to mandate but only for board members that the Select Board appoints. When asked about volunteers, Jen said she had not explored that but will look into it. Omar stated that he and his board are opposed to a mandate for vaccines at this time. He says they can always revisit it later, but they feel it is extreme. Cindy spoke about their policy at Island health Care and says she also opposes mandating and feels the risk is low as long as there is mask wearing. Others spoke to support the Board of Health and their guidance. Others spoke so support mandating a vaccine. Jen read a list of correspondences received both for and against. Skipper said he was uncomfortable with a policy that doesn't cover everyone. He asked for a motion to mandate but none was offered. Skipper thanked the participants for their input and then closed the discussion with no further action taken.

Correspondence:

- Cape Light Compact re: Proposed Change to Joint Powers Agreement (to allow remote participation by the Board) – if the Board agrees they can send a letter to Sue Hruby who is the WT rep.
- C. Minkiewicz re: Council on Aging Vaccine Policy
- C. Riggs re: Town Employee Vaccine Policy
- E. Miller re: Council on Aging
- E. Valenti re: vaccine Policy

- M. Valenti re: vaccine Policy
- D. Ruskin re: vaccine policy
- R. Goldstein re: Eversource Rate Reduction
- Request for Town Representative to UIRSD Environmentally-Friendly Building Task Force. Jen will advertise for someone
- MV Museum re: Executive Director Appointment
- Letter to School Committee Members re: MVRHS Principal Dingley from ‘Concerned Parents’

Public Comment: There was none.

Jen wanted the Board to know that she had missed the deadline to advertise the RFP for the lease of the dump lot so that would be a bit later than expected.

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

Adjourned 5:14 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Janice Haynes, Administrative Assistant