

Approved 9/1/21
Town of West Tisbury
Select Board Meeting
Wednesday August 25, 2021 4:30 pm
Via Zoom

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

Also present for part or all of the meeting: Atty. Jack Collins, Omar Johnson, Doug Ruskin, Bea Phear, Kathy Logue, Daniel O'Connell, Dan Doyle (MV Commission) Dawn Barnes, Cathy Minkiewicz, James Klingensmith, Leon Brathwaite, Laura Silber, Nicola Blake, John Abrams, Matt Gebo, Louisa Hufstader, Rich Saltzberg, and other members of the public that did not speak.

Chair Skipper Manter called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Minutes: There were none ready to approve

New Business:

- **Town Hall Vaccine mandate -**

Discussion ensued about whether to require that all employees working in Town Hall show proof of vaccination. The ban would not affect visitors. Cindy said she would support making that a requirement. Atty. Jack Collins recommended wording for a motion.

After more discussion Cindy made the motion as follows:

I move that this Board vote to establish a rule that all town employees working in or conducting business at the Town Hall at a time when other town employees or members of the public are present in the building must be fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus no later than September 30, 2021.

Any applications for medical or religious exemptions shall be submitted to the office of the Town Administrator who shall, in consultation with the Town's Special Labor Counsel, investigate and make a report to the Select Board and such employee's appointing authority concerning what accommodations, if any, might be reasonable.

Kent seconded. The vote was unanimous: all in favor (3)

- **Island-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Vote to adopt:**

Dan Doyle shared some slides and explained the updates to the plan from 2015. He has been working closely with Chief Pachico on the State forest fire hazards. He is asking the Board to adopt the plan.

Cindy made the motion to adopt the plan as shown and sign the letter. Kent seconded. Roll Call vote: all in favor.

Topics Not Anticipated:

- Jen advised that she had gone to the Historic District meeting with Angie Gompert from VTA and that the plan for the charging station had been approved but there were some questions about the screening landscape plan. They will come back to the board with more info as they have it.

Old Business:

- **Committee to Create a MV Housing Bank Discussion:**

Skipper is the West Tisbury rep to the committee and has questions that he wanted the Board to address. After discussion, it was decided that he would bring those questions to the Committee itself. It was also suggested that they have an All Island Select Board meeting and a Public Listening Session in the fall. Jen will reach out to the other Town Admins.

- **Howes House Feasibility Study:**

Jen has revised the RFP and worked with Kathy Logue to focus the interest. She's concerned that everyone is so busy they may not get responses that they'd like. Discussion followed about how to move forward with the structural assessment and some of the other items. Jen will speak with some people who do these types of RFPs to get more guidance. Jen has heard from Aquinnah but not Chilmark as of yet. Kathy was thanked for the work she did.

Correspondence: There was none.

Public Comment:

There was just a couple of clarification questions from the press that were answered. Skipper also mentioned that they had had a good Fair and Jen acknowledged Russ Hartenstein for his work with the storm and the Fair.

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

Meeting Adjourned at 5:33 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Janice Haynes, Administrative Assistant