

*Approved 8/23/23*  
**Town of West Tisbury**  
**Select Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, August 9, 2023 4:30 pm**  
**At the WT 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 part or all of the meeting:** Jeremiah Brown, Susan Silk, Dan Waters, Beth Kramer, Susan Wasserman, Richard Knabel, Bernadette Lyons, Rob Hauck, Thomas Humphrey, Janice Haynes and other members of the public that did not speak.

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

**Minutes: Vote to approve – August 2, 2023:**

Jessica pointed out the omission of Ron Rappaports name in the attendees which will be added.

*Jessica moved to approve the Minutes of August 2, 2023. Cindy seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.*

**New Business:**

- **Town Tree Committee – Tree Planting Project:**

Jeremiah explained the situation; the town had voted to plant trees but there have been no bids because no one wanted to do the job at prevailing wage. The tree committee is now looking for direction from the Select Board. One of the ideas they have now come up with is to use the money to purchase the trees and materials and use volunteers to plant them. Jen said that was a possibility. The money voted could also be used to advertise for the volunteers. There was discussion about taking monetary donations to pay for professional landscapers to help and supervise but Jen does not believe that would be feasible. They could accept the donation of labor if their company would pay them. Jessica suggested asking the horticulture department at the high school. When asked about using machinery to dig or move the trees Jen said it would be the same deal as the donated labor, it would have to be a donation from the landscape company. Jeremiah will take all this info back to the Tree committee and work with Jen on the project. The board was fine with the volunteer idea. No action taken

- **Sue Silk - Board/Committee Manual:**

Jen has found some samples of manuals from other towns and shared a couple that she especially liked and pointed out why. One included the specific charges of each committee and everyone thought that was a good idea to include. Cindy thinks training should also be part of the process for new members. She said that John Christensen is very interested in the

project and she suggested they form a sub committee consisting of herself, Susan Silk and John to start with, to do an assessment of current committees and work on the manual and training. The others agreed that this was a good idea. There was more discussion about enforcement, training and creating a ‘talent pool’ of people interested in serving on committees that may not have openings at the moment. No action taken.

*Cindy moved to approve the MV Ag. Fair Entertainment License for 8/17-8/19 10am-11pm and 8/20 10 am – 7pm. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.*

- **Council on Aging Board Member - 2 Consecutive Term Limit Restriction:**

It has come to the attention of the board that there are term limits mentioned in a document created by the Council of Aging that says board members may only serve 2 consecutive terms. There are a couple of members, including Skipper who is chair of the COA board, who have served more than 2. After discussion it was decided that each of the 3 towns should be involved but the COA board should be responsible for solving the problem. Susan Wasserman and Dan Waters both spoke about this being an opportunity to re-create the COA and the Memorandum of Understanding between the 3 towns. Skipper will call a meeting of the COA to discuss and will report back to the board. He stated that he is willing to resign if that is what the COA board wants. Cindy thinks that having Skipper chair the meeting is a catch 22 considering he is one of the people who has been over-term; someone else should lead the meeting. Susan Wasserman offered to help. Cindy also said that this brings to point the previous discussion about getting all the committees into compliance. No action taken.

**Topics Not Anticipated:**

- Jen has spoken to the Historic District about the cemetery fence and they discussed it informally and said they will not approve the use of AZEK. They will call for an official public hearing and let the board know so that they can attend and be part of the discussion.

**Old Business:**

- **Stoney Hill Lots/Land Purchase discussion:**

Jen recapped the offer made by the land owner and said she has been trying to figure out if they can make swapping land owned by the town with the Stoney Hill Association work. It turns out they have no interest in swapping, but might consider in letting the town purchase some of their unbuildable lots. It also seems there is a restriction on any further houses in that neighborhood from an earlier MV Commission decision and Rob Hauck who lives in the neighborhood says the restriction was for designated open-space. Jen says the situation has become difficult and is wondering if they should proceed. Jessica suggested Jen have a hypothetical discussion with the MV Commission and see what they say. They will continue to look at it. No action taken.

**Correspondence:** There was none.

**Public Comment:** There was none.

Reminder that there's no meeting next week.

*With no further business Cindy moved to adjourn. Jessica seconded. Roll Call vote: All in favor,*

*Meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Janice Haynes,  
Administrative Assistant*