

Approved 10/4/23
Town of West Tisbury
Select Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 20, 2023 4:30 pm
At the WT Town Hall and via Zoom

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

Also present or on Zoom for part or all of the meeting: Dan Waters, Beth Kramer, Sue Silk, John Christensen, Bernadette Lyons, Jenny Gadowski, Max Skoldjebrand, Kim Angell, Eunkie Seonwoo, Thomas Humphrey.

Cindy called the Select Board meeting to order at 4:30 pm at the request of Skipper who had to participate by Zoom and felt that it would be better to have someone in the room run the meeting. Jessica was also present by Zoom.

Minutes: Vote to approve – September 13, 2023:

Cindy offered a couple of small corrections that Jen will fix.

Skipper moved to approve the Minutes of September 13, 2023 as corrected. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

New Business:

• **Improving Governance Task Force – Creation and Charge:**

Cindy summarized the project that she, Sue and John had volunteered to begin. They had met and put together some documents including their proposed charge, proposed members and a timeline. They were shared with the board and discussed and explained. They also spoke about writing a handbook based on one found in Manchester by the Sea that they thought was really great, and they want to conduct a survey of committee members too. Skipper and Jessica thought the charge was well done. Jessica asked about ongoing monitoring and who will do it, and about future members and meetings. The committee will meet and determine a schedule going forward. There was also discussion about whether it was going to be an ad-hock working group or something more formal. It was decided to form a formal committee that would post legal meeting agendas and minutes.

Jessica moved to officially form the Improving Governance Task Force and appoint Cynthia Mitchell, John Christensen and Susan Silk as the first members. They are also charged to do the work as proposed in the submitted document in the given timeline, hold future meetings and recruit new members as needed up to 5 to begin with. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor

- **Town Joint Select Board Meetings:**

Jim Malkin wrote a letter to all the island Select Boards and Nantucket about improving how the joint meetings were run. Cindy agrees with Jim's ideas. Skipper agrees to a point, but is uncomfortable with having the chairperson representing the whole board and/or voting on behalf of the board and not having the other members present. He also felt there were too many agenda items. Jessica also agreed with most of Jim's points and would like to see someone identified as chair and able to run the meetings with more control. She would also like to have actionable goals set. Jen suggested rather than various agenda items, they pick a topic or a couple of related topics to discuss and stick to that. Everyone agreed and Jen will respond to Jim's letter and let them know their ideas. No action taken.

- **No Meeting Next Week:**

Jen updated to say that she will be on island so they could actually meet next week if the board wanted to, but Cindy will still be away. After discussion they decide they still did not need to meet. Next meeting will be October 4th.

Topics Not Anticipated: There was none.

Old Business:

- **Special Town Meeting:**

Jen explained that after speaking with Kathy, Mac and Bruce about the timing of the meeting, there was concern about timing to get tax bills out more so than the worry about the tax rate hearing and it was decided that November 14th was the best date. There was some discussion about the status of the ADU article and its readiness.

Skipper moved to call a Special Town Meeting for November 14th 2023 at 6 pm and close the warrant on October 10th. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

- **Council on Aging Board:**

Cindy explained that they had put this off until the current members could be contacted. Jen spoke with Anna Alley who is happy to continue. Skipper tried to get in touch with Nancy Cabot but was unsuccessful and will follow up tomorrow. They decided to proceed anyway. Skipper feels that the town bylaws should be what they are going by rather than the document written by the council, but knows that the others disagree and will go along with it. He has enjoyed serving on the COA board for 25 years. Cindy acknowledged Skippers length of service with gratitude. Cindy asked if they had advertised for new members and Jen said yes, the request is out there for at least a couple of weeks and they will plan to meet with applicants on the 4th of October.

- **Vote to Rescind Appointments:**

Skipper moved to rescind the appointments of Skipper Manter and Nancy Cabot to the Up-Island Council on Aging as they have exceeded the 2-term limit. Jessica seconded. Roll call vote: Jessica and Cindy in favor, Skipper abstained. (2-0-1)

○ **Appoint member of the Select Board:**

Jessica moved to appoint Cindy as an interim member of the Up-Island Council on Aging. Skipper seconded. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Correspondence:

- Free Cash Certification:

Bruce said that it's a little over \$ 1.3 million and explained where the number came from.

- UIRSD re: Vote to Replace Doors at Chilmark School:

FYI That they voted just under \$ 8,000. To replace some exterior doors.

Public Comment: There was none.

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

Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:27 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Janice Haynes,
Administrative Assistant*