

Approved 9/18/19
TOWN OF WEST TISBURY
SELECTMENS MEETING
Wednesday, September 4, 2019 4:30 p.m. –5:15 pm

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

Also Present: Nancy Dole, Sean Conley, Charlie Kernick, Bruce Stone

Minutes: *C. Mitchell motioned to approve the minutes of 8/21/19. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

Historic District Commission (HDC): Sean said that the HDC had researched options to simplify their procedures for work that does not need a permit. They plan to change their regulations to allow two members of the Committee to sign off on work that does not need a permit thus saving time for the owners, who will no longer need to wait until a meeting can be held for those sign-offs. This change was recommended by the Director of Mass Historic. The second change outlines a variety of minor changes that will no longer require a public hearing. This change to the bylaw will require the HDC to hold a public hearing first. *(the proposed changes are attached to these minutes)*. The HDC hopes that these changes to the bylaw will encourage the home owners to apply for work they want done.

Howes House Space Needs Committee: Kent noted that any renovation work to the Howes House would likely cost huge amounts of money so he urged that the town proceed with caution. Cindy said this committee was charged with looking at the town's needs for the space at this point, it was not intended to automatically plan for renovation. Jen was asked to attend the first meeting to help get them started.

K. Healy motioned to appoint Kathy Lobb, June Manning, Joyce Albertine, Tanya Larsen and Michael Colaneri to the committee. C. Mitchell seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Vineyard Transit (VTA) Reduction in Winter Bus Service: Skipper said the proposed drop in service to up-island for the winter was a mistake, he noted the island is trying to become more sustainable, and promote public transportation so a drop in service is a step in the wrong direction. He noted that the towns pay an assessment and they would likely be willing to pay more to maintain service. Bruce showed the Board a breakdown of assessments paid to the VTA by the towns. He suggested that perhaps \$.50 could be added to the embarkation fee at the Steamship with that money going directly to the transit agencies of the respective port towns. He said that could raise roughly \$600k for the VTA, which would appear to be the funding gap they currently have. Skipper said it would require a vote of the legislature to change the embarkation fee. Cindy said it was a good idea, and in keeping with the intent of the fee. Bruce said it might be easier to pass at the Legislature with the support of the Cape towns as well. Jen was asked to send a letter, copying the other island towns, asking the VTA to reconsider the drop in service.

Request for Bylaw Review Extension from Attorney General: Jen explained that Town Counsel had said he had a request from the Attorney General's office requesting a second 30 day extension to review the pool cover and bottle ban bylaws passed at town meeting. She added that there might be a benefit to authorizing the Town Administrator to make this decision with Town Counsel instead of waiting for a meeting to take a vote. Kent asked what would happen if the Board did not grant the extension. Jen said the bylaw would likely be denied. Skipper said the

denial should only be for constitutional reasons not a deadline. Jen agreed but noted that because they clearly have questions about the legality of the bylaw they would probably err on the side of caution. She noted that the office has to review bylaws from 352 towns that all come in at roughly the same time so complicated bylaws may at times hold them up. Skipper said he did not want the Town Administrator to have the authority to sign off on the extensions.

C. Mitchell motioned to grant a 30 day extension for bylaw review. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.

Blue Economy Grant: *C. Mitchell motioned to send a letter of support for the Blue Economy RDEO grant. K. Healy seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was unanimous in favor.*

TriTown Ambulance Building – Chilmark: Skipper said he would attend the first meeting of this committee and then report whether he wished to be the appointee for the project.

Mill Brook Watershed Study CPC Submittal: Jen was asked to submit the application for the second year of funding to the CPC committee.