

WEST TISBURY
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 28, 2019

Present: John Brannen, Binnie Ravitch, Michael Turnell, and Peter Rodegast

Absent: Geraldine Brooks, Whit Griswold, and Tara Whiting-Wells

Staff Present: Maria McFarland

Also present for all or part of the meeting: Brian Beall, Chris Kennedy, Jack Klumick, Sam Low, and Donna Paulnock

Members welcomed Donna to board. She did not participate in the meeting as she did not get a chance to be sworn in prior to the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M. Peter Rodegast Chairman pro-tem presiding.

Minutes: The minutes of the April 16 meeting were approved as revised. Peter abstained.
The minutes of the April 23 meeting were approved as revised.

New Business

Map 36 Lot 24 and Map 42 Lot 1/ Trustees/ New Horizons Hot Air Balloon Event: Chris Kennedy, Sam Low and Jack Klumick of the Trustees were on hand to have an informal discussion with the board about a fundraising event being held at Long Point Reservation on July 12-14 involving a mirrored hot air balloon, music and speeches. No permit is required from the Commission, but the board appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the event and to ask questions about plans to reduce impacts on the beach, vegetation, and shore birds.

There will be two morning and two evening events. Champagne will be served at the morning event and beer and wine at the evening events. Guests will be able to purchase a ride in the hot air balloon at the morning event. A stage will be set up for a speaker at the evening events. A caterer will provide food. Event goers will bring their own beach chairs.

Issues Discussed:

- Management of traffic on Waldron's Bottom Road and Parking: Parking is limited to 200
- Night time lighting: Chris said they will get more detail on the plan for lighting the paths to the beach from the parking lot and how electricity will be provided for sound.
- Equipment for event and caterer: More information will be provided on the plan for getting the cook tent, sound system, staging etcetera onto the beach.
- Care of the hot air balloon: When the balloon is inflated it will be tethered to 4 ATV's
- Food waste, paper, use of plastic, and trash pick-up during and after the event: There will be extra rangers on site during events. All liquids and solids should be placed in receptacles to be disposed of off- site. The use of glasses and glass beer bottles is discouraged. Rangers and the catering staff will monitor for wind-blown debris ending up in the dunes, in the water or left on the beach. Symbolic fencing will be used to protect the dunes is helpful but monitoring is important.
- Generators: Generators should be filled in the parking lot and refilling should not take place on the beach. The board would like to know where they will be located while in use.
- Shore bird monitoring: A copy of the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program letter will be provided to this board. Chris said there are currently no nesting shore birds in the area.

- Weather conditions: wind speed and weather conditions that would cancel the event are determined by the balloon operator..
- The Board of Selectmen, Police, and EMTS have all signed off on the project.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the information about the information that was presented and to send a letter to the Trustees with a list of concerns to be addressed by the caterer, balloon operator and the Trustees event planners in the Boston development office. All in favor.

[Not mentioned at the meeting: The balloon will only be inflated during each event. In between events, the balloon will be deflated and stored at the winter headquarters.]

Old Business:

Map 3 Lot 91/ Lambert's Cove Beach Path project/ follow up: Thanks to Michael for his help in facilitating the work with the high school students to grade the path to Lambert's Cove Beach.

Administrative

Associate Member: Members met with Brian Beall who is interested in joining the board as an associate member. A motion was made and seconded to recommend Mr. Beall to the Board of Selectmen for appointment to the board for a one-year term as an associate member. All in favor.

Noted for the record:

Map 11 Lot 36/ Administrative Review/ Well House Roof repair: All work will be done by hand. Materials to be hand carried to site or delivered over a stone wall along Lambert's Cove Road. No clearing of vegetation is required.

Correspondence:

In: Presentation materials/ TTOR/ Hot Air Balloon event
E-mail dated May 23 and copy of letter dated May 21 from Tim Boland, Executive Director at Polly Hill regarding tree cutting on Perimeter Road

Out: Certificates of Compliance/ Long Point/ Trustees:

- Map –Lot, 36-28,42-1, 43-8/SE79-151/prescribed burns
- Map – Lot 36-28 and 42-1/SE79-267Phragmites removal
- Map 41 Lot 1/SE79-282/ Reconstruction of duck blinds
- Map – Lot 36-18,42-1 and 43-8/SE79-299/Prescribed burns

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Maria McFarland
Board Administrator
APPROVED