

WEST TISBURY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES April 22, 2024 pg 1

PRESENT Leah Smith, Ginny Jones, Heikki Soikkeli, John Rau, Amy Upton, Matt Merry.

ALSO PRESENT: (Names as they appeared on the Zoom screen)

Rachel Baumrin, Sara Rosenthal, Andrew Lester, Nicola Blake, Greg Pachico, Donna Lowell Bettencourt and Jane Rossi.

Leah opened the meeting at 5:35 pm

MINUTES:

*Ginny made a motion to approve the **March 25, 2024** minutes as amended and Amy seconded the motion. Ginny-yes, Amy-yes, Matt-yes, Heikki-yes, Leah-yes.*

● DISCUSSION:

The Chair began the meeting with the Brandy Brow improvements discussion while waiting for the first applicant to arrive.

Complete Streets Committee discussion on Brandy Brow:

Leah said the documents were very complete and the idea seemed reasonable. She said she liked the idea of fixing the path.

Rachel Baumrin explained that the committee was appearing before the board with a proposal to improve the path at Brandy Brow for safety purposes. She said the committee had met with the Conservation Commission and heard all of their concerns, and now they want to appear before the Planning Board to explain their plan. They understand the delicacy of the path and its value. We just want to make the surface safer as a pathway. Ideally the town is monitoring the path so we are doing our due diligence to make sure it's safe. The roots are an issue. For now, we just hope to make the trail safe for foot, stroller and bike travel. We have looked at the path and the roots, how are we accessing the path from the pond, and to and to and from the library? We are primarily discussing being given the opportunity to improve the path without altering its appearance.

Leah said she agreed and it is important to recognize that it will deteriorate further if not taken care of. Rachel said Andrew Lester can clearly see what the path needs based on his occupation as a trail developer. Andrew said he had met with Jeremiah Brown, Tree Warden and he agreed that the path could use some attention.

Ginny said the Woods family should be included in the conversation. Rachel said the committee is at step one and will follow up. Ginny felt sooner would be better. John Rau asked what the cost would be and Andrew explained that he would be asking some school kids for assistance with the work. There will be no heavy equipment, simply rakes and shovels. Amy volunteered

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her son to help. Donna Bettencourt suggested the National Honor Society be contacted for assistance with the project.

Ginny made a motion to support the proposal and Amy seconded the motion. Ginny-yes, Matt-yes, Amy-yes, Heikki-yes, Leah-yes.

●Site Plan Review application from the West Tisbury School to install a kitchen trailer and two freezers in front of the school for food preparation and gleaning purposes:

June 11th Student Give Back Day for various projects. Ask the school for further information.

Donna Lowell Bettencourt began by explaining that the existing school kitchen was originally a serving kitchen. Food was prepared at the high school and delivered to the up Island schools. Now the school prepares their own meals which serve West Tisbury and Chilmark. They provide breakfast and lunch free of charge.

Demand on the kitchen has grown and they are applying for grants, one of which was recently secured. They have purchased the trailer and two freezers which will be located with the freezers outside of the kitchen door, and will be used for gleaning processing and storing foods. The kitchen contains wash stations, and there are no cooking items.

Donna said they have shared-out their food program state wide, as head cooks share their ideas broadly. Their goal is to teach the middle school kids to try different cultural foods as a learning program. There is a lot going on in the culinary program island wide.

Greg Pachico, added that the board of health will require a written plan to be on record. Donna reiterated that they keep a lot of records.

Ginny made a motion to support the application and Amy seconded the motion. Ginny-yes, Heikki-yes, Amy-yes, Matt-yes, Leah-yes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Rossi, Administrator

Approved on May 6, 2024 Upton-yes, Soikkeli-yes, Merry-yes, Smith-yes.